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THE
BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL,

OR

ADVOCATE OF THE PRINCIPLES

WHICH GOVERN

THE THOMSONIAN SYSTEM OF MEDICAL PRACTICE.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON,

THE ORIGINAL DISCOVERER AND FOUNDER OF THE THOMSONIAN SYSTEM.

That which has a tendency to destroy life, can never be useful in restoring health.—[SAMUEL THOMSON.]

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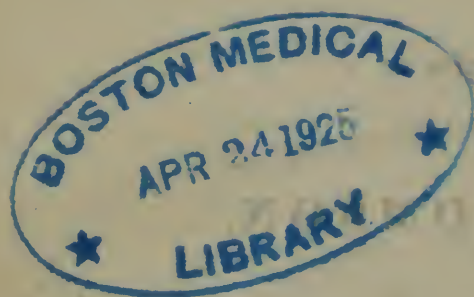
BOSTON THOMSONIAN JOURNAL

1925

THE THOMSONIAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCE

EDITED BY

THE THOMSONIAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCE



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BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

"Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature." — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, NOVEMBER 15, 1840.

[NUMBER 1.

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR ?

Thy neighbor ? It is he whom thou
Hast power to aid and bless :
Whose aching heart, or burning brow,
Thy soothing hand may press.

Thy neighbor ? 'Tis the fainting poor,
Whose eye with want is dim,
Whom hunger sends from door to door—
Go thou, and succor him.

Thy neighbor ? 'Tis that weary man,
Whose years are at their brim ;
Bent low with sickness, cares and pain,
Go thou, and comfort him.

Thy neighbor ? 'Tis the heart bereft
Of every earthly gem ;
Widow and orphan, helpless left ;
Go thou, and shelter them.

Thy neighbor ? Yonder toiling slave,
Fettered in thought and limb,
Whose hopes are all beyond the grave ;
Go thou, and ransom him.

Whene'er thou meet'st a human form
Less favored than thine own,
Remember there's a neighbor born,
Thy brother, or thy son.

O ! pass not, pass not, heedless by !
Perhaps thou can'st redeem
The breaking heart from misery,
Go, share thy lot with him.

From the Thomsonian's Vade Mecum.

THE FRUITS OF EXPERIENCE.

In his youth, the author of the Thomsonian system accidentally discovered that a certain plant possessed the power to eject, in a short time, with very little pain or inconvenience, and with no evil consequence whatever, any foreign or morbid matter from the human stomach. He afterwards observed that whenever this operation had been thoroughly performed, sickness at the stomach, head-ache, vertigo, fever, pain over and in the eyes, morbid appetite, indigestion or dyspepsia, mental aberrations, nightmare, and a host of other aches and ills that flesh is heir to, took a speedy departure from the fortunate patient. The experiment was continued on others, who suffered under the same maladies, and the result was uniformly the same.

It was observed, however, that in cases where the patient was cold, or the stomach acid, the operation, though in character the same, was more tedious, and less thorough. To obviate

these difficulties, resort was had to those warming stimulants which experience, in their use for food, &c., had abundantly proved to be calculated to generate heat in the stomach, and diffuse it over the body; and to the use of pearl-ash, which, it is well-known, neutralizes acid. In the meantime, observation had disclosed the fact that certain vegetable decoctions would detach the cold phlegm and morbid canker from the folds of the mucous membrane of the stomach, and thus greatly facilitate as well as enhance the value of the operation. These same medicines were found to produce the same effect upon the bowels, whenever they were disordered.

Experience has ever taught that no man suffers under the influence of a scorching fever, while in a state of free perspiration. The same experience teaches that the most favorable situation to induce that condition of the body, is immersion in some kind of warm vapor. The boy that stows away the new made hay, or he that explores the tobacco sweat-house, always returns under the influence of a free perspiration. It only remained then for art to devise the most convenient and effectual means of imitating Nature's own plan, of throwing morbid obstructions from the pores of the external surface, to complete the process of discharging morbid matter of every character and description from every portion of the system. The various modes by which steam, either simple or medicated, is applied to the surface of the body, sufficiently answer this purpose.

In cases where disease or improper medical treatment had debilitated the system, it was observed that something more was necessary to complete a cure than merely to rid the patient of disease.

It was observed that the debilitated system was unable, without assistance, to maintain an amount of vital heat sufficient to sustain a free circulation; and that the digestive organs needed the aid of tonics to regain their elasticity. For the former of these purposes the most pure and wholesome stimulants were applied; and for the latter, bitters in various forms were added to the most nutritious diet and beverage.

This practice, by expelling all morbid matter from every portion of the system, prevents the formation of those abscesses, tumors, &c., which, under other circumstances, afford the principal subjects for surgical operations.

INDIGESTION.

"There appear to be" says Dr. T. J. Graham, of London, "two prominent errors in the medical practice of the present day: one, is the mistaking severe disorders of the stomach and intestinal canal, for disease in the liver; the other, is the employment of large doses of mercury, for the cure of these supposed 'liver complaints.' The mischief that arises from these errors is incalculable. They are wide spreading evils, whose destructive influence is unhappily felt by persons of every age, rank and condition, and which call aloud for a remedy.

"The term 'liver complaint' is now in the mouth of every one; and it is well known that mercury, in some form, generally the most injudicious, is the universal medicine for all kinds and degrees of disorder in the digestive organs. A patient suffering from such disorder, which is usually denoted by oppression at the stomach after eating, want of appetite, weakness, depression of spirits, irregularity of the bowels, discolored motions, &c., can hardly consult his physician or apothecary, without being told he has a 'liver complaint,' and, as a necessary consequence, being soon loaded with calomel or blue pill. Indeed, it is a fact of which I am convinced from ample experience, that even the slightest forms of derangement in the assimilating viscera are often designated by the above fashionable term, and treated accordingly.

Fashion in Medicine.—"It is much to be regretted that there is a fashion in medicine, as well as in the other affairs of life. A few years ago, the majority of ordinary complaints were said to be on the nerves: now, they all depend upon, and centre in the liver. On this subject, a modern writer has well observed, 'that the Princess, afterwards Queen Anne, was subject to hypochondriacal attacks, which her physicians pronounced to be spleen, vapors, or hyp, and recommended Rawleigh's confection, and pearl cordial, for its cure; this circumstance was sufficient to render the disease and remedy *fashionable*, and no other complaint was ever heard of in the precincts of the court, but that of the vapors. Some years afterward, in consequence of Dr. Whytt's publication on "Nervous Diseases," a lady of fashion was pronounced to be nervous—the term became general, and the disease fashionable; and spleen, vapors and hyp, were consigned to oblivion. The reign of nervous diseases, however, did not long continue, for a popular work appeared on Biliary Concretions, and all the world became *bilious*.' It is an unhappy circumstance that the world still continues in this state, and that both the disease and its remedy have taken so deep a

root in the professional mind, that there is yet no appearance of a change to another ideal fashionable malady, whose favorite remedy, we might hope, would be a medicine more like pearl cordial or Rawleigh's confection than calomel, and therefore more congenial to the human constitution, and which, if it were not attended with any sensible benefit, would possess at least the advantage of being innocent.

"Those disorders which are in common language called bilious and liver complaints, are denoted by some or all of the following symptoms, viz.: a sense of distension and oppression after eating, with flatulent, acid eructations; diarrhœa, or constipation and uneasiness of the bowels; furred tongue; impaired appetite and strength; discolored motions, they being either green, dark-colored, black, or much too light; nausea, headache, and bilious vomiting; palpitation of the heart, with or without occasional pain in that organ; pain in the pit of the stomach and towards the right side; sallowness of complexion, and depression of spirits:—and if the chief, or the whole of these symptoms are present, especially if in a severe degree, it is usually considered sufficient to justify the opinion, that a liver disease exists. But according to my experience, a very large majority of those maladies are not liver complaints, but properly disorders of the stomach and intestinal canal.

"It is acknowledged that in every severe disorder of these viscera, the liver participates, and its secretions are consequently vitiated; but this is a secondary affection, and very different from the state in which that organ is usually considered to be found. They are not, as is erroneously imagined, primarily and chiefly liver complaints, in which there is, at least, incipient disorganization of that viscus, or a condition nearly approaching to it, which is the idea commonly intended to be conveyed to patients, and generally received by them, from the use of the term 'liver complaint;' but are functional derangements of the stomach and intestines, the liver being affected secondarily and sympathetically; and so far from requiring large and repeated doses of mercury, for the restoration of its healthy functions, that they can be permanently re-established only by the use of means directed to correct the original morbid affection. Among these means we shall see that mercury is not always admissible, even in minute doses, and that in large ones it is invariably pernicious.

"So vast a sink of disease has the liver been thought of late, that it is considered by some men, of no small professional eminence, as a great improvement of modern medicine, that due attention is paid to the 'remarkable sympathy' which it exerts in its functions with the other viscera! This sentiment is fallacious."

INFLAMMATORY RHEUMATISM.

BY DR. JOHN THOMSON.

I was called to visit a Mr. Fitzsimmons who resided on Arbour Hill, about two miles from my residence. He was laboring under a severe attack of the Inflammatory Rheumatism, and had been attended by one of the most celebrated physicians in this city, without receiving any benefit. I found F. prostrate on his back and not able to lift hand or foot. His wrists, elbows, shoulders, hips, knee and ankle joints, were much swollen and violently inflamed. So sore was his flesh, that when I took hold of his hand to raise it from the bed, in order to examine the circulation, the weight of the arm caused such excruciating distress, as to make him cry out by the anguish it caused.

It being late in the day when I arrived at the residence of the patient, together with the prospect of an immediate rain storm, induced me to call into aid the mother of invention, as I had not time nor convenience to carry the young man through a course of medicine.

My thoughts were first called to the original principles of the complaint, that is, the cold which the patient had taken and which had become secreted in the flesh, and had forced the natural warmth upon the surface in the same degree as the presence of the chill had caused the absence of heat in the flesh. Now the vital warmth was not sufficient to force the coldness from the body, in consequence of so large a proportion of the vital principle being upon the surface, which nearly created an equilibrium between the vitals and surface. In this state the man lay, nearly faint, panting and catching for breath, almost as if he had been before a heated furnace.

Having taken this view of the complaint, the next thing was for the remedy.

It occurred to my mind that, on the principles of natural philosophy, all substances have a stronger affinity to their own principles as bodies, than for any other body; also, the larger body will attract the smaller one, so as to unite with the larger one. For instance, place a large drop of water upon a table and a small drop near it, it will be perceived that the smaller will approximate towards the larger in proportion to its size, and will at length become united with it, provided they are placed within the range of their own attraction, say one-eighth or one-sixteenth of an inch asunder. Now, as the cause of the distress was cold or absence of heat in the flesh, how was it to be drawn out? It at once occurred to me that *salt* was a powerful refrigerant, and would freeze water before the fire in the summer time, with the addition of a little ice. Well, salt I at once adopted as the attract-

or of the cold from the flesh, brown emetic as a laxative and stimulant, in conjunction with cayenne pepper. I then commenced making a compound in the form of a poultice, by taking four table spoonsful of fine salt, two table spoonsful of cayenne, one table spoonful of pulverized emetic seed, put them all into a bowl and poured on one pint of hot water, and stirred it until the salt had become melted, and the strength extracted from the cayenne pepper. I then added composition powder and Indian meal to thicken the same to a poultice; also a little slippery elm, to make the poultice adhesive. After it was well prepared, I laid the poultices upon every joint where there was any pain, extending the poultice entirely around the joint, at the same time giving the young man some hot medicine to take inwardly, and the pain began to abate immediately; and in three days, by this simple application alone, the patient was entirely free from pain, insomuch that on the third day he came down into the city and returned home again entirely cured. The poultice was kept constantly wet with cold milk and water, to prevent the salt from contracting the skin too much.

Remarks.—The way I reasoned upon the properties of the poultice was this; the salt, the refrigerant or cold principle, attracted the cold from the joints, in consequence of the greater refrigerant power being in the poultice, by which means the chill from the flesh was attracted by the salt, and the warmth of the body being greater than the stimulant in the poultice, the flesh received from the poultice its stimuli, whilst the poultice received the chill from the body; being as it were a mutual exchange. The emetic assisted the cayenne in the work of relaxing the flesh, and caused the communication between the poultice and flesh more easy and accessible.

This poultice I have since found to be an excellent remedy for swellings, pains in the side and breast, and is a powerful draft to be applied to the feet. And in case of pleurisy, I have mixed up the ingredients with a strong solution of tobacco while hot, and with the addition to three or four table spoonsful of soft soap. The proof of the goodness is in its application, as any one will find by applying it in time of distress.

MENTAL DERANGEMENT.

Baron Pisani, an illustrious and devoted philanthropist in Palermo, a man of fortune and refined education, took upon himself the direction of what was then truly called the Mad House of Palermo, but which his humanity and unwearying exertions soon transformed into an

ordinary and comfortable abode for its once wretched inmates.

The miserable condition of every thing belonging to the house, when the Baron first entered upon his duties, was indescribable. It was then the abode of desolation and wretchedness. He found there a few squalled, forlorn beings, with scarcely a human appearance, in the midst of chains, filth, and malaria. It resembled more a menagerie of wild beasts than a human habitation. The treatment was worse than that which was formerly inflicted on felons and traitors. He threw off their chains. He comforted them by consoling language and still more by kind actions. He gave them refreshing drinks and good food. He used towards them an affable and affectionate manner; and, although deprived of reason, they were conscious of the benefits they had received from him, and often the poor forsaken creatures would embrace him as their only friend. This stimulated him to new exertions. From sickly, pallid, and unhappy, they became healthy and cheerful, and many showed him the greatest gratitude.

The Baron relates a singular cure which he effected a few years ago by a simple stratagem which suddenly occurred to him at the time. A woman, on becoming deranged, had resolved never to quit a certain position which she had taken, which was stooping down as low as she could, still resting on her feet. This bent her knees to the utmost degree; but in this way she continued long after she was brought to the house. She had continued for ten years without extending her lower extremities. When she came under his charge, he long tried to awaken her sensibility on some subject, without success. At length he went to visit her one morning, and told her he had come to the determination no longer to lead a life of celibacy, and had come to ask her hand in marriage. She was at first indignant and requested him not to make fun of her. He pressed his suit with so much earnestness and with so many compliments, that at length she showed some attention to his conversation. He became more eloquent with arguments for their union, and at last she smiled. It was the first time for ten years. She became more cheerful, laughed a little, and finally consented to marry him. The next day was appointed for the solemnization of the nuptials. All the tranquil insane were invited to the wedding. She was dressed and decorated like a bride, and then called to an elegant arbor where a feast was prepared for all the guests. One of the keepers was dressed as the Padre, a counterfeit ceremony was performed, and they all paid her particular marks of respect and congratulation, giving her the title she had acquired of Baroness. She tried to

walk, but was unable to straighten her knees. The tendons in the hams had become stiff and contracted. She was carried and placed at his right hand at dinner.

From this time her recovery commenced. By the employment of linaments, friction and exercise, the use of her limbs was gradually restored, and she is now an intelligent and respectable lady of Sicily, and often laughs with the Baron, whom she calls her *esposo*, at the amusing freak of the marriage ceremony.

EQUALITY CONDUCTIVE TO VIRTUE.

“Every thing that is cheap or procured with little labor is most conducive to health, wealth and happiness. The most healthful mode of traveling is on foot; it is the most correct mode of acquiring the positive knowledge of surrounding objects, and it is at the same time the cheapest. The most wholesome beverage is water, the most conducive to a sound mind, and the cheapest. The plainest food is the most wholesome, and the simplest cookery the easiest of digestion; all mixtures and complications to flatter the artificial appetite, only wear out and debilitate the stomach, in separating component parts and making the analysis. Luxurious soft beds are the most debilitating; hard beds are the cheapest and most healthy. Coarse linen next to the skin is warmest in winter, and absorbs perspiration better in summer, guarantees better against the changes of the weather, creates a salutary friction on the skin, and is obtained with less expense of labor. Most of our luxurious and artificial wants are obtained by much care, anxiety, labor and pain, are the creatures of civilization, and when got, only generate disease, pain and disappointment, abridging life and all its comforts. Almost the whole of our tastes are acquired; amongst the few that are natural, milk and sugar are the most conspicuous, and every thing in proportion as it resembles them. All sour, bitter, or strong food have an unpleasant effect upon the palate, and must be rejected by all whose tastes are not vitiated by habit. All kinds of wine or strong liquors that do not approach to the taste of milk or sugar, would be rejected at first by all children; none of the immense variety of artificial dishes, invented to pamper the artificial appetite, would please the natural tastes of children, but in proportion as they approach the taste of milk or sugar. The education of children ought to begin not by learning them new tastes, but by rigorously fortifying, maintaining and nourishing the natural tastes of instinct, and carefully preventing the acquisition of any new tastes, which can only increase their wants, and of

course, their troubles and misery through life. Men, like all other carnivorous animals, are born with an instinctive courage, which ought to be cherished and supported by education; all their lessons ought to be calculated so as to depend on free will, for children are materially injured in all the necessary accomplishments, by being coerced by fear to do what their inclination or natural disposition revolts at. The lessons ought to be made to suit the nature of the child, not the child constrained and new modeled to suit the lessons. The dogma of original sin, founded on the story of Adam and the apple, has had great influence in forming our systems of education, opposed and contrary to nature; "that man is prone to evil as the sparks fly upwards," authorizes all kinds of fine, restraint and coercion, to change and counteract the natural dispositions; and it substitutes the artificial, in accordance with the prejudices, superstitions, fancies or whims of the teacher, placing art in opposition to nature, instead of aiding and assisting in modifying and reconciling them, so as to render the union more perfect, and the direction of the exertions towards general good, stronger and more efficacious. Men have never yet been found in a state of nature, where instinct has had fair play, free from the vices of education. Even our savages, with whom the inclemency of the seasons render violent struggles necessary for existence, have been taught most of their vices by contact with civilization, and in all the climates where nature has been bountiful, such as in the West Indies and South Sea Islands, were in a state of innocence, free from vice and crime, when first visited by civilization; their property was confined within the limits of necessities, was almost in common, and they lived almost entirely on the fruits of the earth. The first appropriation of land, and afterwards of other property to individual monopoly, is perhaps the origin of cupidity, vice and crime.

"If we compare the simplicity, honesty and hospitality of the inhabitants of mountains, where the nature of the locality scatters and isolates them, and where the poverty of both soil and climate starves tyranny, with the cunning, roguery, vice and crime which fills our large cities, we shall be convinced of how great a proportion of misery, wretchedness and crime is the consequence of art and civilization, and how little reason we have to blame nature for the evils we bring on ourselves, by a total deviation from all her laws. In all physics, improvement is simplification, that is, requiring less labor; all our mechanism now, is much less complicated, considering the work it does, than it used to be; and even in morals, though it is many centuries behind physics, any little amelioration that has

taken place, has been by banishing complicated intricacy and metaphysical mysteries, and placing men's motives on the true basis of self, judging the merits of their actions by the good or bad consequences, and leaving the whole catalogue of imaginary motives out of the dictionary of common sense. Equality is the true simplification of society, and the most extensive and solid foundation of morality, producing "the greatest happiness to the greatest number," the true test of utility. Were property, knowledge, and power so equally divided, that each individual would be forced to make all or part of what he consumed, superfluities would disappear from our kitchens, saloons and wardrobes, and each would make an estimation of the labor of producing the superfluities, and finding it far exceed the enjoyment, he would drop the one to be relieved from the other."—[Maclure.

THE MOTHER OF GEN. GREENE.

Among the many ladies who distinguished themselves for their patriotism, charity, and other good qualities, in our Revolution, there is one whose name ought not to be forgotten, and who, in my opinion, is equal in merit to any that flourished in our country, and there were many at that time. About the commencement of our Revolution, and as soon as it was ascertained that Nathaniel Greene, (afterwards General Greene,) intended to join our army in defence of his country, a deputation of Friends, commonly called Quakers, to whose society he then belonged, by order of their meeting waited upon him to endeavor to dissuade him from it, and after listening to all their arguments on the subject, he informed them that he felt an irresistible propensity, not to be got over, for joining his brethren in arms. He thanked them for the great interest they had taken in his welfare; but he could not comply with their request.

After the deputation took an affectionate leave, and left him, his mother, who had been listening with all the anxiety of a fond parent, used her best endeavors to prevail on him to stay at home, when he told her it was impossible. After a pause, she burst into a flood of tears, with this remarkable observation: "Well, Nathaniel, if thee must go, it is possible that I may hear of thy death, and if it be God's will that it shall so happen, I hope I shall not have the mortification to hear of thee being wounded in the back." Comment is needless—a Spartan mother could not have said more; but Mrs. Greene stands pre-eminently superior to the mothers of antiquity, as her education was so different—*she was bred a Christian.*

BELGIAN GIANT.

Mons. J. A. J. Bihin is very appropriately announced to the public to be a giant. His magnificent organization gives us some conception of the stature, carriage, and prodigious muscular power of the renowned champion of the Philistine army, of a remote antiquity. Goliath exceeded *eleven feet, nine inches* in height. Mons. Bihin measures *seven feet, six inches*. This is being pretty tall, however, when it is recollected that some physiologists maintain that the race is growing shorter. Mr. Porter, the Kentucky giant; the Irish soldier who was here a few months ago; O'Brien, the celebrated giant who travelled through Europe about the year 1810; and one of the monsters raised by a corrupt soldiery to the throne of imperial Rome, were all of them superior in altitude to the extraordinary man who is the subject of these remarks. But they were not, throughout, symmetrically formed. Mons. B., on the other hand, is admirably developed; there is just enough of every thing, fitted to the right place, over the whole extent of his mighty framework. We do not know whether their facial expression was mild, dignified, severe or ugly; but in regard to the representative from Belgium, all who have seen him will concur in saying that he has an excellent countenance, as well as a majestic person.

Independently of a brazen helmet, greaves upon the legs, and a brass plate between the shoulders, the hero of Gath wore a coat of mail to protect his body, that weighed one hundred and eighty-nine pounds. When we called on Mons. B., he wore a frock-coat that contained four yards and a half of broadcloth. The Philistine carried a spear like a weaver's beam, that had an iron knob at one extremity which weighed twenty-two pounds and three-quarters. Mr. Locke, in the Daily Times, asserts that Mons. B. raised Mr. June, of the Circus, who weighs two hundred and ten pounds, and is six feet and four inches tall, from the floor with one hand, turned him somersets, and then quietly deposited him again on his feet. He assured us himself that he could lift from the ground eight hundred pounds with his hands, and could straiten his back, when stooping, under a weight of two tons!

He was born at Spa, in Belgium, Dec. 10th, 1807. At birth, he has been informed that he weighed *twenty-six pounds*, and measured twenty-five inches in length. He at present weighs three hundred and twenty pounds. At twelve years of age he measured five feet, ten inches; and at fourteen, he was over six feet. Puberty commenced at thirteen. Around the calf of the leg the girth is 22 inches; the thigh, 28; and the chest, 50. By profession he is an

architect, but seems not to have been very laboriously devoted to business. With regard to phrenological indications, the head will probably be pronounced, by those who understand the details of the science, to be a well-balanced one. We know nothing of his education further than that he discourses agreeably in French, and tolerably in English, considering that it is only about five months since he arrived in the United States. He is married, but has no children. Temperance in eating and drinking seem to have been habitual. Notwithstanding his immense size, his parents, although tall, stout people, are far from being giants—and by the side of their Herculean son, look like children. Taken, therefore, all in all, Mons. Bihin is one of the greatest natural curiosities of the age, alike the astonishment of the ignorant and the wise.—[Med. and Surg. Jour.]

TOOTH-ACHE.

I was tormented nearly to death last night with the tooth-ache; the only momentary cessation of pain I experienced, was while I composed the following conundrums, and laughed thereat:

What street in London puts you in mind of a tooth which has pained you for a length of time?
Long-Acre!

When should you apply a *sovereign* remedy to your tooth? When it is a *King!*

By what ejaculatory exclamation would you declare that your tooth pained you? It aches, *by gum!*

Why does an aching tooth impose silence on the sufferer? Because it makes him *hold his jaw!*

To what town in Poland should you go to have it extracted? *Pultusk!*

Which of your teeth are like a mantua-maker's fingers and thumb, when she is cutting out a dress? *Inscissors!*

When do your teeth usurp the functions of the tongue? When they are *chattering!*

Why is it not to be wondered at, that your teeth cause frequent disturbances in your mouth? Because they often make there *more than one row!*

But the conundrum which gave me the greatest delight, and after making whereof, I was so satisfied with myself as to have well nigh fallen asleep, and forgotten my pain, was the following classical conception:

When does an aching tooth put you in mind of Paris, with his bow and arrow, giving Achilles his mortal wound? *When it shoots in the Temple!* Ha! ha! ha!—[Sunday Morning News.]

RUINS.

The ruins of Rome! The overthrow or decay of mighty human power, is, of all thoughts that can enter the mind, the most affecting. The whole imagination is at once stirred by the prostration of that, around which so many high associations have been collected for so many ages. Beauty seems born but to perish, and its fragility is seen and felt to be inherent in it by a law of its being. But power gives stability, as it were, to human thought, and we forget our own perishable nature in the spectacle of some abiding and enduring greatness. Our own little span of years—our own confined region of space, are lost in the endurance and far-spread dominion of some mighty state, and we feel as if we partook of its deep-set and most triumphant strength. When, therefore, a great and ancient empire falls into pieces, or when fragments of its power are heard, in the sad conviction of our souls, rent asunder like column after column disparting from some noble edifice, we feel as if all the cities of men were built on foundations beneath which the earthquake slept. The same doom seems to be imminent over all the other kingdoms that still stand; and in the midst of such changes, and decays, and overthrows—or as we read of them of old—we look, under such emotions, on all power as foundationless, and in our wide imagination embrace empires covered only with the ruins of their desolation. Yet, such is the pride of the human spirit, that it often unconsciously, under the influence of such imagination, strives to hide from itself the utter nothingness of its mightiest works. And when all its glories are visibly crumbling into dust, it creates some imaginary power to overthrow the fabrics of human greatness—and thus attempts to derive a kind of mournful triumph even in its very fall. Thus, when nations have faded away in their sins and vices, rotten at the heart and palsied in all their limbs, we strive not to think of that sad internal decay, but imagine some mighty power smiting empires and cutting short the records of mortal magnificence.—Thus, Fate and Destiny are said in our imagination to lay our glories low. Thus, even the calm and silent air of oblivion, has been thought of as an unsparing power. Time, too, though in moral sadness wisely called a shadow, has been clothed with terrific attributes, and the sweep of his scythe has in imagination, shorn the towery diadem of cities. Thus the mere sign in which we expire, has been changed into active power—and all the nations have with one voice, called out “Death!” And while mankind have sunk, and fallen, and disappeared in the helplessness of their own mortal being, we have still spoken of powers arrayed against

them—powers that are in good truth only another name for their own weaknessess. Thus imagination is forever fighting against truth.—[Blackwood's Magazine.

SCARCITY OF BOOKS IN OLDEN TIMES.—Rev. Mr. Motte, of this city, in a sermon preached on the 28th of June, thus describes the scarcity of books during the dark ages—contrasted with the multiplicity of books which the art of printing has produced among us.—[Mer. Jour.

“While they had to be written with the pen, the trouble and expense did not wholly retard the progress of literature, but allowed little diffusion to it. There were a few lofty lights scattered here and there through the midnight fog, but the mass had to remain in darkness. Private persons seldom possessed any books at all, and even monasteries of note had often but the missal, and a single copy of that. In the year 855 there was not a complete copy of the works of Cicero in all France, as enlightened a kingdom as any of Europe. Books were so scarce in Spain at the beginning of the tenth century, that one and the same copy of the Bible, and of a few other religious works, often composed the library that served several different monasteries; and the monasteries then, be it remembered, were the chief depositories of learning. In 1072 we find that the monks in England could have each but one volume a year to read. When a book was borrowed, even by kings sometimes, surety was given and a bond for the return of it, under heavy forfeitures drawn up with great solemnity. If any one gave a book to a religious house, he believed that so valuable a donation merited eternal salvation; and it was offered on the altar with great ceremony and the stipulation that the receivers should perform masses for the soul of the giver.”

FROG STORY.—In the last number of the Farmers' Monthly Visitor, a correspondent narrates the following curious occurrence; showing that frogs are adepts at “wrestling at arms length:”

“A few years since, while standing beside a wall, I heard a splashing in water on the opposite side. Looking over, I saw about eight feet from me, two bullfrogs apparently wrestling.—They stood up on their hind legs—took fair hold at the back with their arms, (or fore legs, if you please) and tripped and twisted just like two men in wrestling. Sometimes one would get thrown, then the other. I saw them at this play ten or fifteen minutes. They certainly were not fighting, for neither were hurt. The water was two or three inches deep, just up to their knees; as soon as one gave the other a fall he would jump off, and both would stand up and take hold again.”

ANECDOTE.—A friend who came from “across the water,” related to us last evening the following anecdote: It seems that his father, in early youth, displayed an uncommon genius for the art of painting, and was strenuously opposed in his desire to adopt it as a profession, by the grandfather of our friend. By dint at first of stolen hours of devotion at the shrine of his soul’s longing, and finally of open study at the Royal Irish Academy, the subject of our anecdote acquired a degree of perfection in his execution which enabled him to shape out into a tangible form, before the eyes of his admiring friends, the dim creations which had “flitted his fancy’s mind before.” Upon an occasion it happened that the family moved their place of residence, and as there was no hat and umbrella stand to be placed in the hall of their new house, the young artist determined to paint one, which he did with remarkable force and accuracy. The old gentleman coming in soon after, and seeing as he thought the hat-stand, deliberately took off his head-covering and hung it up, as he supposed, on one of the hooks, when as a matter of course the hat fell to the floor. A second and a third trial resulted in the same manner. The old gentleman then becoming impatient, exclaimed, “D——n the hook, I’ll try another.” He did so, and was deceived. At this juncture, his daughter stepped from the hall into the parlor, and observing the ineffectual efforts which he was making, remarked to him: “Why father, that’s no stand; it is only one of our Mike’s tricks.” “D——n the fellow,” said the old gentleman, “I was always opposed to his painting. Now see what it’s come to.”—[New Orleans Native American.]

PRESENCE OF MIND.—If you should happen to meet with an accident at table endeavor to preserve your composure, and do not add to the discomfort you have created by making an unnecessary fuss about it. We remember hearing it told of a very accomplished gentleman, that when carving a very tough goose, he had the misfortune to send it entirely out of the dish into the lap of the lady next to him, on which he looked her full in the face, and said, “Madam, I will thank you for that goose.” This manner of bearing such a mortifying accident gained him more credit than he lost by his awkward carving.

A married lady, who was in the habit of spending most of her time in the society of her neighbors, happened one day to be taken suddenly ill, and sent her husband in great haste for the physician. The husband ran a short distance, but soon returned, exclaiming, “My dear, where shall I find you when I get back?”

A large multitude of the poor of Dublin are actually in a state of starvation, and entirely dependent on the benevolence of the public to deliver them from it. The slackness of business is at present greater in degree, more general in extent, and has been of longer continuance, than for past years; so that the bulk of the unfortunate people have during some months been unable to get any employment. Meanwhile, they have been subsisting by the disposal of whatever moveables they may have had in their possession, and now are so reduced as in general to have nothing left by which to raise a supply of necessary food. Upon the ground that they are able-bodied men, and in consequence not incapacitated by age or infirmity from earning their bread, but merely in want of employment, they are refused aid at the poor houses; while at the same time it is only necessary to look at them in order to see famine and the lowest degree of privation pictured in their faces and on their whole persons.—[Dublin paper.]

MISERIES OF INDOLENCE.—None so little enjoy life, and are such burdens to themselves, as those who have nothing to do. The active only have the true relish of life. He who knows not what it is to labor knows not what it is to enjoy. Recreation is only valuable as it unbends us. The idle know nothing of it. It is exertion that renders rest delightful, and sleep sweet and undisturbed. That the happiness of life depends on the regular prosecution of some laudable purpose or calling which engages, helps and enlivens all our powers, let those bear witness, who after spending years in active usefulness, retire to enjoy themselves. They are a burden to themselves.

A FRIGHTFUL DREAM.—The other day, when visiting a tee-total friend of ours early in the morning, we remarked that his eyes looked heavy, his countenance dejected, and that his face wore an impression of much recent suffering. As we really have a regard for him, we asked him what was the matter with him; to which he answered—“My dear fellow, I have suffered horribly; for, just before your arrival, I awoke from a frightful dream, in which I thought that voluntarily—without the least compulsion—indeed without any solicitation—I had taken a stiff glass of brandy and water, warm, with sugar.”—[Montreal Courier.]

HONOR.

Not to be captious or unjustly fight;
’T is to confess what’s wrong, and do what’s right.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, NOVEMBER 15, 1840.

MANUAL—VOLUME SEVEN.

The number that we present to our readers to-day, commences a new volume; and the justness of the cause in which it is engaged, encourages us under the task of editor. We will not at this time, go into an extensive train of promises as to what sort of fare we shall lay before our readers in our future numbers, but suffice it to say, as we are "engaged in an honest and an honorable calling," we shall use every exertion to give such articles as will be useful and entertaining.

We would ask of our former correspondents a continuance of the favors, which have added so much to the interest and value of the volume just closed. Communications in favor of the system, and reports of cases are eagerly looked for by those who are just awakening to the glorious medical truths as laid down by Dr. THOMSON, and we ask those who have labored long in the field of reform, to lend a helping hand in keeping up the interest which is so deeply felt at the present time, in the cause of the Healing Art.

There is no way which is better calculated to advance the cause, and disseminate the doctrine, than to aid and support periodicals for that purpose; and to effect this object we would ask our friends to use their endeavors to increase our subscription list. Let each one resolve to obtain at least one subscriber for the present volume, and feel that he has not performed his duty to the cause of suffering humanity, until he has thus succeeded in diffusing a knowledge of the superiority of the system of medical practice as taught by Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, over that practiced by the old school physicians.

Dr. THOMSON now stand in the unenviable situation of having enemies of two classes to combat—the old school doctors who are open in their war-

fare, and a class of non-descript deceivers who have stole his name under which they deceive the unwary, and undermine the firm foundation of the system, by passing off their own miserable compounds for *Thomsonian Medicines*. It is useless for us to tell the Thomsonian community that this latter class are the most to be dreaded; for when sick people are made worse by using preparations which they are told are *Thomsonian medicines*, they will condemn and reject THOMSONISM. Many of this latter class, are those who have been shielded in the hour of their adversity by the protecting hand and fostering care of Dr. THOMSON, and having got a smattering of the system have turned traitor to their best friend—the friend in need. From the former class, he has ever expected persecution and abuse; but at the hand of those who have been his dependants he had a right to expect kind treatment—good will in return for his favors to them;—but the desire for gain, has led them astray, and deception, artifice and misrepresentation are the means they use to gain their object. That the public may be on their guard against these enemies in the guise of friends, it is necessary "to keep up the determining powers" of the paper, and therefore we ask its friends to raise the steam to the necessary height to enable it to get "through the course" much improved.

DR. THOMSON'S NEW PATENT.

The "Boston True Thomsonian" clan have told the story about Dr. Thomson's New Patent in a way to suit themselves; thinking that the public would be satisfied with it, and that it would be a sufficient screen for them in the estimation of the community, to justify them in their making use of his name as they do; but we cannot for a moment believe that they are so ignorant as to suppose themselves correct, in saying that his Patent is "good for nothing." We should not allude to this subject now, had we not been urged by some of our subscribers, for information respecting it. We have therefore enquired of those acquainted with law as to the legality of Dr. T.'s Patent, and have assurance of its validity. That the law required a record of the patent, but if he held his granted Letters, and now retains them safe in his possession, the burning of the record no more destroys his guaranteed rights, than the burning of the record of the deed of a man's farm could deprive him of his property, when he still held the original deed in his possession.

For those who are anxious to know the true state of the case, we publish the following, and

believe it would be found correct, if the case were tried at law:—

Sometime previous to the expiration of his *first* Patent, Dr. THOMSON made application for a *new* Patent, and Letters were granted him. The nature of said Letters Patent, comprised the whole ground of the old Patent, and in effect renewed the old. And said New Patent, is now good, to all intent and purposes, as when it was first granted. A copy of this Patent was recorded in the Patent Office of the United States, and when that office was destroyed by fire some few years ago, the *copy of the Patent* met the same fate. But the *Letters Patent was not destroyed*. Dr. Thomson had them safe in his possession, and still holds them. Soon after this burning of the Patent office, he was notified, that by application and presenting his Letters Patent within a given specified time, it would be recorded again free of expense, but if neglected beyond that time he must incur the expense of recording, but he could have it recorded at any time by so doing. The Doctor has has never had it re-recorded, and for the reason that as soon as it was done, any apothecary or person who felt disposed to counterfeit his medicines could have a copy for a few dollars. The clerk of the office told Dr. Thomson that he had copied the First Patent for over one hundred and fifty individuals, and applications were made for copies of the new one before it was put on record. By refusing to re-record his New Patent, Dr. Thomson deprives rogues of a chance of getting at his valuable discoveries but does not lose his guaranteed Rights. At any time when he may wish to prosecute by them, all he has got to do is, to get them put on record, and then “go-a-head.” We think the above will satisfy all honest people, but we expect knaves will take exceptions to it.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON'S ALMANAC

Is now in press, and will be ready for delivery in the course of next week. The callender is designed for the whole United States and the Canadas. It will be found an interesting and instructive work—containing a variety of matter of a useful nature to Thomsonians. It is comprised of thirty-six large 12mo pages, on good type and paper. Those who have not forwarded their orders, should lose no time in so doing. They can be had at \$20 per thousand; \$3 per hundred; 50 cents per dozen, and 6 cents single.

☞ The Poughkeepsie Thomsonian is in error, in attributing the anecdote of “An honest M. D.” to Dr. Curtis. It took place in *Poland not Portland*, Me., and was published originally in our paper of September 15.

☞ The following article we copy from the “American Magazine”—believing it contains a great deal of truth and much sound sense : at any rate, it chimes in exactly with our ideas of “coffee,” which we have never believed to be injurious to health—when properly prepared—notwithstanding all that has been said and written to the contrary. That it may be—and very often is—prepared in such manner as to render it unhealthy, we have no reason to doubt : and what article in the culinary line may not ? Coffee, to be fit to drink, requires much time and care ; consequently, very few families prepare it as it should be. We would as soon be deprived of our bread, as our coffee.

COFFEE.

Coffee is an article of but recent introduction. It was unknown to the Greeks and Romans, even in their most civilized and refined state.—It was probably first used as a cordial, or pleasant beverage by the Ethiopians. Their situation, on the south of the Red Sea, was in the vicinity of its natural growth. It was introduced into Constantinople in the year 1554 ; and thence was gradually adopted in the western parts of Europe. The story of its introduction into England is, that one Edwards, who had been a merchant in Turkey, in 1652, brought with him on his return, a servant, who was acquainted with the method of roasting coffee, and making it into a beverage. Afterwards, a house was kept by this person for the sale of coffee, in London. In Paris, it was hardly known till the arrival of the Turkish ambassador there in 1669. A public coffee house was soon after opened in that city.


The grateful estimation of coffee, when properly prepared, is almost universal. It has been the favorite beverage of many distinguished men, Leibnitz, Voltaire, Frederick the Great of Prussia, and Napoleon. It is used by all classes of the people in Europe. As a medicine, strong coffee is a powerful stimulant and cordial ; and in the paroxysms of asthma, it is one of the best remedies. In faintness, or exhaustion from labor and fatigue, it is one of the most cordial and delicious restoratives. But much depends on the preparation by roasting, (not burning,) and the duration of time it is subjected to boiling. The objection to its strength with every one, is readily removed by the use of milk ; which, at the same time, adds to the nutriment of this agreeable beverage. The conjecture sometimes made, that coffee is unwholesome, seems not to be confirmed by facts or experience. It neither shortens life, nor does it inebriate, or debilitate, or unreasonably stimulate. If it has a tendency to produce such ef-

fects, it ought to be relinquished, as much as ardent spirits. But the observations of the most careful and intelligent physicians, does not support the supposition.

We are aware of the modern theory recommended by some good men, which would exclude not only ardent spirits, and other fermented liquor, but animal food, coffee and tea; and allow only of a vegetable and milk diet. We will not quarrel with such benevolent men. But it remains to be proved that water, milk, and vegetable diet, will secure the health and vigor as effectually as something more substantial and nutritious. Yet, as the zealous advocates of temperance, we would not be thought to discourage the most plain and simple diet, which consists with the athletic and laborious duties of man. Ardent spirits are never necessary; not even as a medicine. Other remedies are equally efficacious in all cases; and, as a drink, even in a moderate use, it is always injurious. Wine, porter and cider may also be used to purposes of intemperance. But whether these must be entirely proscribed as well as ardent spirits, for the promotion of temperance, we do not undertake to decide. The apostolic advice is "to be temperate in all things."

The coffee plant or shrub, which generally reaches the height of fifteen feet, is cultivated in the warm climates, but is found in the southern parts of the temperate latitudes. It grows in great quantities in Arabia, in the latitude of 20 deg. north. In the East and West Indies, it flourishes in the same parallel. Arabia supplies 14,000,000 pounds of coffee annually, for various parts of the world.

HINTS TO THE CONSUMPTIVE.—Dr. Latour, of Paris, has published the following rules for preventing the advent of consumption in those who are predisposed to it:—A consumptive patient should inhabit a dry, airy locality, well exposed to the solar rays. Residence in any large city predisposes to consumption. A temperate climate should be chosen, where the variations of the temperature are neither sudden nor frequent.—Travelling, and particularly sea voyages are attended with decided advantage in the early stages of consumption. The patient should be warmly clothed, and covered with flannel from head to foot. He should take habitually some moderate exercise, as walking, riding, &c.; exposure to the open air and sun's rays is absolutely necessary. He should exercise the mind in a moderate degree, but avoid all strong muscular exertion, a bent position of the body, residence in a damp, moist place, &c., and finally, the food should be rich and nourishing.

 The last number of the "Boston True Thomsonian," contains a communication from M. Mattson, in which he shows his eagerness to undermine the man who has so bountifully supplied him with the means of living, for the last two years. It is useless for us to notice this effusion of malice and spite at much length, as we suppose nearly all our readers have been furnished with a copy, gratis, and can see the design of the writer, to raise himself on the fall of his opponent; but he must wait patiently—his assension is of tardy growth.

The statement in relation to the engraved plates which Dr. Thomson has in his possession, is made evidently to injure the sale of the book which they are intended to embellish. They have been pronounced, by good artists, to be elegantly executed, and if they do not prove to be such, others will be furnished, and these turned upon the man who received pay for engraving them. We are told by the engraver, that Mattson has since acknowledged to him, that he was *mistaken in the effects of acid used in executing engravings*, when he made the assertion respecting them.

Mr. Mattson says, "Dr. Thomson was not willing to pay an engraver a decent price for doing his work, and consequently they were not engraved in the usual manner." We would say in reply, Dr. Thomson had nothing to do with making the contract with the engraver. Mattson made it himself.

As to a report being circulated that Mattson's book would never be published, and that its publication had been announced to drive Dr. T. into a compromise, and obtain a handsome bonus, it is news to us—we have never heard of anything like it before, except from one of Mattson's own intimates, who told us the same story that Dr. T. is now accused of circulating. We smelt the rat at the time, and never told the story; for we believed then as we do now, that it was manufactured and this man engaged to tell it, and as it has never reached us by any other source than the above, we are now confirmed in our opinion as to its origin.

As to Dr. Thomson making a proposition to renew the contract, if it was done at all, it was at the earnest solicitation of some of those who attended the Thomsonian meeting few some weeks ago.

Dr. JOHN THOMSON, of Albany, N. Y., also comes in for a share of abuse from the same fruitful source of blackguardism. Dr. J. Thomson is a gentleman extensively known in the Thomsonian ranks; and the citizens of Albany have held him worthy to represent them in their legislative assem-

bly. Below will be found an extract of a letter from him in relation to the Thomsonian, &c. We suppress some portions of the letter, thinking it best not to put it on too hard—for the way Morris is used up in the extract, is rather a “hard scald.”

TO THE EDITOR OF THE THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

Sir:—I received this morning through the Post Office from some unknown source, a copy of the “*Boston True Thomsonian* ;” a work, (were I to judge from a perusal of its pages,) devoted to plunder for its support ; for in the first place, it has adopted my father’s name for its title, and is next engaged in attempting to rob him of his reputation, to furnish matter for its columns. Depraved indeed must be that man, who would be so base as to adopt for the title of his most cherished work, the name of the individual, whom, of all others, he professes most to despise. Such is the case with the “*True Thomsonian*.”—And further, to cap the climax, after taking his name and endeavoring to rob him of his reputation, it makes use of one *Morris Mattson* to give aid in the above work of iniquity.

Morris Mattson, in a communication bearing date, Boston, Oct. 16, 1840, represents that I have injured him, and reduced him to penury.—(“*Heaven save the mark !*”) Is it possible that a man of his character can be ruined in any way except by cutting off the sources from which he has been in the habit of acquiring money without rendering an equivalent for it? This is my offence. I have warned the public against a work which *Morris Mattson* was about to palm upon them under the name of my father, and which it was said would contain his latest improvements, and *Mattson’s* own experience under the assumed title of *Doctor Mattson* ; when he has never had any experience in the Thomsonian or any other practice, to my knowledge. I therefore leave the public to judge whether a book published under such circumstances would be an imposition or not. What would the farmer or mechanic say of a lawyer or physician, who, without experience, should attempt to publish a work on Agriculture or Mechanism? Would they consider such a work of any use to them? Surely not. Similar is the case of *Morris Mattson*—a man destitute of practical knowledge—in attempting to publish a Medical work. Said *Mattson* has taken \$1150 from my father, under the plea that he was a practical man, and that he had a work on Botany ready for publication in 1838. Under this deception said *Mattson* was enabled to rob my father of his money. I believe it to be the duty of every individual in the community, to put the public on their guard against such persons.

Mattson says I am conceited. I have no doubt that is his opinion of every man who exposes his rascality. What should I think of any man that had taken money from my father, under pretence of performing a certain work that he was wholly incompetent to do, and the whole substance of the work, if any, was to come from my father ; and while in this capacity should say of his patron, (as I understand *Mattson* has said,) that he wanted “*Old Thomson* to live two years, and then he did n’t care a damn how soon he died.” I ask any honest man who has, or ever had a parent he respected, if he can blame me for trying to rid my father of such an incubus.

I am done with Mr. *Mattson* ; but contend that it does not require a man of very strong mind to see through his designs in pirating upon the pockets of other people ; and my *self-conceit* and *small share of intellect* is just sufficient to enable me to believe that I can see the character of the GREAT DOCTOR MORRIS MATTSON through the veil but dimly ; and leave it to stronger minds and less conceit, to throw off the veil entirely and view this intellectual and moral giant in the full blaze of his glory,—for I readily confess myself incompetent to do him that justice he so richly merits.

JOHN THOMSON.

Albany, Nov. 7, 1840.

✍ We strike off a larger edition than usual of this number of the Manual—being the commencement of Volume Seven—and persons receiving the same, are requested, after giving it a perusal, either to return the number or forward their names as subscribers—the latter would be most agreeable to us.

✍ An old gentleman, not long since, in contrasting the merits of the mineral and Thomsonian systems of practice, remarked that he would prefer trusting his life in the hands of a blind man, who should have the Thomsonian medicines—from No. 1 to 6—placed before him, and administer the first that come to hand, than to have the most eminent M. D. in the country prescribe for him.

✍ A late London journal tells a pretty good story of a foolish and illiterate fellow, who placed himself under the care of a surgeon for the treatment of a sore leg. Among other remedies, a dose of physic was suggested ; but the patient obstinately rejected the proposition, saying, “No, sir—no physic for me. There is the leg ; that’s your job, and do with it as you please ; but this, (striking his stomach) this is mine, and no physic enters here I promise you.”

PROPERTIES OF LOBELIA.

The most important writers on the medical properties of the herb called *Lobelia Inflata*, are Drs. Thatcher, of Massachusetts, and Barton and Eberle, of Philadelphia. Dr. Thatcher highly recommends *Lobelia* for croup, whooping-cough and hydrophobia. Dr. Barton recommends it in croup, instead of the antimonials, on account of its more certain action; and Dr. Eberle speaks of its excellence in croup, hernia, &c. It is true these physicians caution us against the empirical use of the article, telling us that, in unskilful hand, and in over doses, it has been *supposed* to have produced alarming and even fatal effects. But in every case in which *they used it themselves*, they declare that it produced the *desired* effect. Their only objection to it, drawn from their own experience, was its speedy and violent action. We have no objection to its speedy and violent action, because experience has assured us that this action is altogether in favor of life. Dr. Barton states that "the United States do not contain a plant of more unequivocal action on the system." Unequivocal, that is, uniformly the same on the same persons at different times, and different persons at the same time. In this high commendation of Dr. Barton, we can cordially unite. It is surprising with what accuracy an experienced practitioner will predict the time and mode of the operation of *lobelia*, in a given case. I have known them, before they began, to predict the time within from three to five minutes, when a full course should be completed.—[Dr. Curtis.

REGULAR PHYSICIANS.

"They are seldom willing to submit the value of their system of practice to the test of that unerring standard, an exhibition of the number and names of persons dying under their treatment for a given time. Not so with Thomsonian practitioners. They are ever ready to compare notes, and leave the balance to be struck by an enlightened, as well as deeply interested community. Notwithstanding the strong prejudices so generally existing in society against any attempts at Medical Reform, the Thomsonian never shrinks from a decision of his fellow-citizens, when the merits of the Old and New Schools of Physic have been fairly and honestly submitted to the ordeal of their practical results, in removing the "thousand ills that flesh is heir to."—[Thom. (O.) Rec.

It will help us to bear our own ill-fortune, if we reflect on the greater misfortune of others.

Employ thy time in some occupation that is useful.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

MR. EDITOR—Sir:—I am glad that the Manual is to be continued, for I consider that it is more needed now, than it has ever before been, to serve as a guide to the people by keeping them clear of the many snares of deception, and traps of foul deceit, which are spread for them. The new clique which has just sprung into existence, will "sing its little day," and then, like the gay butterfly of summer, lay down—the nothingness it was before it embraced the name of our venerable founder—unwept by all, and missed only by the absence of its bad odor. I hope, however, that if it feels disposed to make any confession of the advantage it may take in the way of trade, that a lesson will be taught it to sin no more; and should it recollect the commandment "restore what thou hast unjustly withheld," it will feel disposed to act accordingly; for I am one who believe that more good results from reformation, than from so much talked of repentance.

The Manual is at this time greatly needed in families who make use of the Thomsonian medicine in your city, that they may have a directory to the truth. Medicines are wanted by them, and they should know where to find the right sort. Out of town people have also a reference to the true, as well as the spurious dealers; they can have their choice; and surely they cannot blame any one but themselves if they have the impure passed on them, for they can see by the Manual where to find the genuine article, and are also cautioned against counterfeiters and peddlers.

I am waiting anxiously for the New Book. I shall expect to find in it a remuneration for the vexatious disappointment which I have experienced in waiting so long for its appearance. I feel confident in the ability of Dr. JOHN THOMSON to do the cause justice—but had the work been revised under the "old Doctor's" own eye, it would have been more pleasing to me, because he is the originator of the system—his ideas are original, and more in accordance with nature than those of any other man of my acquaintance; and I think would be more to the point than even his son's, who, I have not the least doubt, is as capable to perform the task as any man the "old doctor" could have selected.

I am somewhat advanced in life, and own I have a partiality for Dr. THOMSON; but the ingratitude he has received from those he has dealt with, has in a great measure tended to create this feeling. The benefit he has been to the world in bringing

his system so near to perfection, for which he has suffered so much, should sink deep into our hearts, and cause us to venerate and respect him, and his name after him. Ages yet unborn will read his biography with wonder—his persecutions with feelings of detestation for the authors of them—and when they think of the ingratitude of others, they will with sighs of deep anguish weep for the frailty of humanity.

I have already spun out my letter to a greater length than I intended; but the subject is one near my heart. I wish to extend the consolation of lasting friendship to the man who has done so much for the human family, now that he has been attacked by another gang of fortune-hunters, who in their desire to shine so bright in the eyes of the public, have only rubbed the little tinsil which covered their true nature off sooner than it would have been done by gentle use; for when they declare themselves the pure—and the original the counterfeit, they at once show their deformity.

J. R.

Randolph, Vt., Oct. 23, 1840.

For the Manual.

CAUTION!—CAUTION!!

MR. EDITOR.—My ears are daily filled with complaints against individuals who falsely hold themselves out to the public as my agents, authorized to practice my System of Medicine, and who thereby impose, upon the honest and unsuspecting portion of the community, gross ignorance for medical skill, and worthless or deleterious preparations for genuine Thomsonian Medicines. The villany which thus robs the unfortunate of their money, without any valuable consideration, should meet the punishment that often overtakes another and less criminal class of offenders who obtain money by false pretences; and the daring wickedness which thus trifles, from mercenary considerations, with human life, deserves to be treated with the greatest severity known to our laws. To protect the public from the gross imposition, of which so many are made the victims, the Thomsonian Manual will contain a standing list of my agents,—all others who use my name, or profess to have my medicines, are impostors, and I warn my fellow-citizens to beware of them.

I deem it my duty to put the public on their guard, in a particular manner, against the following persons, who are using my name, directly or indirectly, but who either never had any authority from me, or have been dismissed from my confidence for unfaithfulness. Neither myself, nor my system of practice, is to be held responsible for their conduct.

John B. Healey, Augusta, Me.

Benjamin Plummer, Bangor, Me.

Robert Mowe, Eastport, Me.

S. Sewall, Scarboro', Me.

Bayley Pierce, Belfast,

Lewis Watson, Bangor, "

E. G. Gould, " "

Mr. Jacobs, " "

Mr. Burke, Calais, "

Joshua Taylor, Norridgewock, Me.

Colby & Smith, Gardiner, Me.

Hilton, Frost & Mason, Portland, Me.,

Mr. Jones, St. Stephens, Me.

Mr. Wilcox, Bennington, Vt.

A. H. Platt, Rahway, N. J.

Hosea Winchester; Wm. Johnson; Eliakim Darling; Hale & Osgood; and Elias Smith, all of Boston, Mass.

William Clark, Lowell, Mass.

Ralph Rugg, West Amesbury, Mass.

Martin Bryant, North Adams, Mass.

Samuel Sprague, Lowell, Mass.

Ames, Ipswich, Mass.

John Cheever, Charlestown, Mass.

Nathan Wright & Son, Cambridgeport, Mass.

Samuel Eunmons, Waltham, Mass.

Thomas Lapham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

Mr. Frisby, Mr. Sweet, and P. Lapham, New York.

J. J. Gates, Rochester, N. Y.

J. A. Brown, Providence, R. I.

Farewell, Woonsocket, R. I.

Michael L. Priest, Durham, N. H.

Philbrook & Marshall, Nashua, N. H.

H. Jameson, " "

O. N. Chase, " "

P. D. Badger, Newport, N. H.

Aaron Mudge, Portsmouth, N. H.

Mr. Kenedy, " "

John White, " "

Mr. Leighton, " "

B. W. Sperry, New Haven, Conn.

I. J. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.

Rev. Dr. Robinson, Lebanon, Conn.

A. E. Sperry, New London, "

Geo. W. Rubey, Norwalk, "

A. S. Pelton, Clinton, "

G. G. Field, North Madison, "

Wm. Allen, Jun. New Britain, "

George Pease, Guilford, "

Aaron Fenn, Roxbury, "

G. W. Riley, Goshen, "

E. Larrabee, Baltimore, Md.

The following individuals, now holding agencies from me, have shown themselves unworthy of my confidence; I therefore revoke their agencies, and hold myself no longer responsible for any of their acts.

MASSACHUSETTS.—James Osgood, who keeps with

Daniel Lee Hale, at Blackstone and Endicott

Streets, Boston. John A. Andrews, Worcester.

John Locke, Boston. Alexander Scamel, Mil-

ford. Asa McCollum, Leicester. George Howe,

Marlboro'. John Edson, Bridgewater. Phebe

H. Hale, Rowley. Sumner Jacobs, Springfield,

(Chickopee Falls.) Calvin Sanderson, Springfield.

Jonas W. Chapman, Boston.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—George E. Morrill, South Ware.

S. W. King, New Ipswich.

MAINE.—Nicholas Smith, Hallowell. O. Wright,

Livermore. S. W. Elliot, Industry. Jonathan

Marden, Paris. John Shaw, Exeter.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Frederick Plummer, J. W. Com-

fort, Aaron Comfort, Philadelphia.

VERMONT.—Joseph Wright, Montpelier.

NEW YORK.—Oliver O. Cook, White Creek.

Some of the above named individuals make use of vegetable poisons, and I consider it my duty to put the public upon their guard, respecting them.

Those who assume my name to deceive and impose upon the people, are not entitled, either in law or justice, to any recompense for their services. I would remark, also, that the above named Winchester has been travelling in the West, and Johnson, his partner, in the East, for the purpose of vending their spurious medicines. A word to the wise, &c.

I also understand that the above-named *Hale* has been round the country selling medicine; but he has no authority for so doing from me. I have no travelling agents.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Boston, June 15, 1840.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

Ashburnham, Amos S Davis

Amesbury, Andrew Howarth

Ashby, F A Kendall

Andover, John Harding

Andover, (Ballard Vale) Aaron P. Holt.

Ashby, Thomas Gibson

Colrain, Calvin W. Shattuck

Danvers, Amos Trask, and J R Pattin

" Joseph Shaw Jr

Essex, Eli F Burnham

" E. B. Putnam.

Eastham, Scotter Cobb

Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde

" M. O. Bradford

Gloucester, Samuel Friend

" Gideon Lane

" David E. Saunders

Harvard, J. Hosmer

Leveret, Myron Ashley

Lowell, Daniel Hutchinson

" Perkins H Dow

Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney

Milford, S Sumner

Middleborough, Rev A Briggs

South Andover, Jacob Jenkins

North Reading, Eben'r Eaton

North Andover, L. T. Presson

New Bedford, Prince Weeks

" " G. Nye

Newburyport, G W Goodwin

" J Blood

Orleans, Vickery Sparrow

Plymouth, Samuel Barns

Reading, N K J Vinal

Sandwich, Calvin Fisher

Salem, R W Merrill

Springfield, Sirguy Noble

Sturbridge, D Mason

Stoughton, Luther Belcher

Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh

Sudbury, Nahum Thomson

Templeton, Joshua Hosmer

Walpole, Williard Lewis

Waltham, J Shepley

Woburn, Moses H. Pierce

Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester

Camden, Thomas Annis

" William Merriam

East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon

Eastport, John Shackford

Frankfort, George Kimball

Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster

Acton, Robert Chaffee

" M. M. Miles

Colerain, Oscar J Martin

Charlemont, David Todd

Machias, Wm. Smith

Norway, Jotham Goodnow

Portland, Daniel Sawyer

" Rev. C. D. Ffrench

Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield

Ripley, Samuel A. Todd

Searsmont, Randlet Ness

Thomaston, Horatio Alden

Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, A. Watkins, and Bethuel Keith

Exeter, S. J. Perkins

Kingston, John Dearborn,

Langdon, Royal Shumway

Meredith, William M. Ladd

Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq

New Ipswich, C. Hosmer

New Hampton, James Jackson

Nashua, Jesse Whitney

Pembroke, Moses Martin

Somersworth, John Sandborn

Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn

Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds

Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Bennington, George Boardman Jr

Chelsea, Benj. Grant

Dover, Daniel Leonard

East Randolph, P. Smith

Halifax, S. Plumb

" Eben'r M. Clark

Green River, Sam'l Cutting

Guilford, Henry Packer

" Philip Martin

Londonderry, J. Arnold

Randolph, Jehiel Smith

Woodstock, Nathan Cushing

" Jacob Holt

Whitingham, W. Goodnow

" Reuben Green

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson

New Haven, George Munson

Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson

New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Eleventh St., near 5th Avenue

Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding

Troy, Ira Wood

Westport, J. K. French

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman

Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Wilmington, Wm. T. Gerts

New Book.**TO THE THOMSONIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

The public mind has been agitated for two and a half years past, in relation to a revision of my Narrative and New Guide to Health, by Morris Mattson, who has had said work in hand for said purpose.

After the original time for said work to be completed had expired, I added seven months more of time, in order that no reasonable excuse could be offered, on his part, for not having the work complete. I also loaned Mr. Mattson \$1150 in cash, so that there should be no deficiency on my part, so far as money could facilitate the work. On the 1st of June, the time appointed for the completion of the work, the Narrative had not been commenced; the plates were not finished; and what was read of the description of the remedies, was defective. I therefore gave up the idea of Mr. Mattson being competent to put the work in complete order for publication, and concluded he did not design to do the work as agreed upon. I also found that the wants of the people were, that the Book should be written or compiled by a PRACTICAL man, *Mr. Mattson not being such.*

I therefore dissolved all connection with said Mattson, relative to the publication of said work; and shall now go on with it myself, assisted by my son, Dr. John Thomson, of the City of Albany, N. Y., and am in hopes to produce a work during the coming season, that will meet the approbation of the long disappointed community.

No pains will be spared to furnish a work that will meet the wants of the public. The Narrative will be embellished with a new Portrait of the Author, on steel—and the New Guide will contain numerous engravings of the principal plants used in the Thomsonian System of Practice, together with new remedies.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

From the Boston True Thomsonian of Sept. 15. 1840.

"We are sometimes asked whether Dr. M. [Mattson] intends to publish his work, on the supposition that Dr. Thomson's copy right is good for nothing. Dr. M. informs us that he does not know whether the copy right is good, or good for nothing. He does not intend to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson's book, and therefore will not violate his copy right, admitting its validity."

N. B. I am willing Mr. Mattson should publish his work, on the above condition—that is, if he does not copy from my book.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Dr. Samuel Thomson's

ONLY place in Boston for vending his Medicines, prepared under his NEW PATENT, is at his Store and Infirmary, No. 40 SALEM St. Beware of Counterfeits—many are using the THOMSONIAN NAME, under which to sell their drugs.

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THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

✍ **CONDITIONS.**—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, payable in advance. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

✍ Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, free of postage, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass."

✍ Editors with whom we exchange will confer a favor by giving the above an insertion.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

✍ The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON would inform his friends and the public, that he has prepared for publication, and will issue in a few weeks, the *genuine* THOMSONIAN ALMANAC. Those who prefer the *genuine* to the *spurious*, will send in their orders without delay, to No. 40 Salem street, Boston, Mass. oct 1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“ Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, DECEMBER 1, 1840.

[NUMBER 2.

On a precept of a Hindoo law, which says, “ strike not, even with a blossom, a wife, though she be guilty of an hundred faults.”

Strike not your wife in anger, though
An hundred faults in her you know.
Oh! strike her not—though the blow given
Fall light as the breeze of a summer's even—
And the blow to harm, hath as little power
As if you struck her with a flower.

Oh! strike her not—in an angry hour—
For though light the blow, it hath with'ring power
To blight the treasured spell that bound
Your hearts, when adverse fortune frown'd—
And one little blow may thus have severed
The love, that length of years had gathered.

Oh! strike her not—for you ne'er may win
The heart, has it stray'd from you, back again.
Estrange her not thus—but win her to thee
As you did when she roam'd a maiden free—
Though the blow, to harm, hath as little power
As if you struck her with a flower.

From the Register and Examiner.

“ HEAT IS LIFE.”

“ *Heat is Life*,” has been reiterated from Maine to Georgia. Now, this assertion either is true, or it is false: if it be true, the Thomsonian System of Medicine must gain the ascendancy—if it is false, Thomson's theory must be founded on error, and will fall.

Before proceeding to a further consideration of this subject, I shall endeavor to explain to what extent the word LIFE, in the above assertion, is used, or at least, the extent to which it is not used. It is not used to denote that all-pervading principle of activity, whose centre is the bosom of the DEITY, and from thence breathed into the breast of man. It is not used to denote that inborn principle which designates the animate from the inanimate mass of matter, but it is called “ *life*,” by way of pre-eminence over all other subordinate agents in the animated world, inasmuch as it rouses into action the dormant energy which moves the vast assemblage of organized matter, and, it being the least tangible agent in the phenomenon of vegetable, and, in many instances too, of animal vitality, it is not to be wondered, if some should go so far as to consider it the alone and efficient cause. The proud and conspicuous station which the great source of heat to our planet occupies, is

peculiarly calculated to inspire this idea; and well might the poet exclaim—

“ Thou Sun, of this great world, both eye and soul.”

Yet he subjoins,

“ Acknowledge Him thy greater.”

With these remarks, I trust it will be understood what I mean, when I say, “ heat is life.” That it is life, in this sense, I conceive can be proven from clear and tangible evidence.

Three months ago, the fields were clothed with verdure, the forest was crowned with a mantling foliage, the air and earth teemed with myriads of living, active beings; fragrant odors were wafted through the air, and the soft notes of gladness were borne on the wings of the wind. Now, where are they? wrapped in the cold embraces of death, or shrouded in a dormant state, till a renewal of heat shall again call forth the powers to live. Who will hesitate to say, that to these, “ heat is life?” Or who will say, that to these, “ cold,” or the absence of “ heat,” has not been “ death?” And why has not all animated nature shared the same fate? Simply because they are better fitted to preserve the quantity of heat requisite for their existence.

Six months hence, we shall witness a springing forth to life—the plants will expand their buds, and put on their robe of lively green—the insects that now lie to all appearance dead, will again enjoy a period of active existence. The ant, now apparently lifeless as the clod on which it is found, may be seen toiling from morn to night, full of life. And what will have produced this change? Simply heat. Who will say nay? Heat, then, restores life; but heat, too, produces life. Witness the egg, a mass of inanimate matter; yet, apply heat to this mass, and we may produce a perfectly organized, animated being—what but heat produces this change? The same is the case with the seeds of plants, but the truth of the assertion is so evident that I consider it useless to multiply examples.

A CITIZEN.

CONSUMPTION.—AN EXTRACT.

There is no disease more alarming to people in our country, than what is emphatically called “ the Consumption.” It is considered more common than in former years, and this doubtless is true. There are at least four reasons for this.

1. The people are more numerous than they were fifty years ago, and about four to one; and allowing people died in the same proportion, this would make four to one. It is however certain that consumptive cases have increased beyond the increase of the people.

2. A second cause of consumption is the great difference in the manner of *living* and *dress*, as it respects people now, and fifty years ago; particularly in females.

Half a century ago, people lived on common, simple, healthy food and drink, and were healthy. We sometimes find an old person who tells us of living upon bean-porridge and other food equally simple. In those days the dress of men and women was plain, and suited to the climate where they lived, and to the different seasons of the year. At this time how different! The fashions of the nobility in warm climates are brought to this country, and females of all classes endeavor to imitate them, until a consumption follows, and death ends the short race.

In addition to a thin dress, their clothes are tight, the natural shape is crowded upon, and it is sometimes hard for them to stoop or breathe easy. A violent cold is taken, and a bad cough follows, symptoms of consumption are feared and mentioned, and at last it is seated, and the poor fashionable daughter or wife is taken away by what is called the quick consumption.

3. A third cause of consumption is the great change of the climate within twenty years. Within that time, we have had cold summers, which were against the health of young people. At first, young people and others far advanced in years, were taken off with the spotted fever. They did not hold heat enough to withstand the cold of winter, their blood chilled and they died by thousands. Many who lived through, and are now grown up, are troubled with cold hands and feet, foul stomachs, colic, headache, jaundice, pain in the limbs, indigestion, or consumptive symptoms. I do not think there ever was a time when so many young people were troubled with these complaints as at present.

4. A fourth cause of consumption is the manner in which the people are employed, and the manner of treating them when sick.

The employment of thousands, particularly young people, is different from what it was forty years ago. Multitudes work in factories and are employed where there is but little exercise, or they are obliged to continue in a stooping posture. Others are employed in braiding straw, or working over the steam of brimstone. In the straw business, there are two things injurious to females; one is sitting so much, the other, and most pernicious, is continually putting their fingers in cold water. This, in many,

cools the system, and they either become partially blind, dropsical, or consumptive.

The manner of treating people, supposed to be consumptive, is, in my opinion, the cause of more deaths by consumption than any thing else. People will send for the doctor when they have a bad cough, pain in the side, foul stomach, or no appetite. They are directed to wear a *plaster* on their side, to put on a *blister*, have an *issue*, or *seaton*, be *bled*, take *salts*, *calomel* and *jalap*, take a tartar emetic puke, diet themselves or go through a *salivation*, or take mercury until their tongues are swelled out of their mouths, their lips are black, their teeth loose, and they almost dead with hunger. I do not believe there is a well man on earth who could go through all these things without being confined to his bed. After going through all these things, the person is commonly declared in a consumption, past all cure, and so they die.

I believe that what is called "the consumption," may as certainly be cured as any other complaint, if rightly attended to in season.

Consumption means a wasting or decay of the whole body, and generally attended with cough, quick pulse, night sweats, pain in the side, and sometimes a wasting without fever. Whatever may be considered the cause of this disease, a cold is always the first to begin it. Most people, with this complaint, date the beginning of it from wetting their feet, from damp beds, night air, wet clothes, taking cold after being very warm, or something of this kind.

I am more frequently called on to attend consumptive people than any others, and seldom fail of effecting a cure. Raising the heat, removing the cold and filth from the stomach and bowels, restoring the digestion, clearing the system from obstructions, quickening the circulation of the blood, and opening the pores, will certainly cure the consumption, if done in season, as many can testify. People considered consumptive, ought by all means to avoid the following things—*salts*, *bleeding*, *balm of quito*, (the worst of all,) water from mineral springs, *soda water*, the fashionable patent *cough drops*, made to sell, and kept at the shops.

EXTRACT.

"Let us strip our profession of every thing that looks like mystery and imposition, and clothe medical knowledge in a dress so simple and intelligible, that it may become a part of academical education in all our seminaries of learning." "Truth is simple upon all subjects; and upon those essential to the general happiness of mankind, it is obvious to the meanest capacities. There is no man so simple that he cannot be taught to cultivate grain; and there

is no woman who cannot be taught to make it into bread. And shall the means of preserving our health, by the culture and preparation of aliment, be so intelligible, and yet the means of restoring it when lost, so abstruse, that we must take years to study, to discover and apply them; to suppose this, is to call in question the goodness of the Deity; and to believe that he acts without system and unity in his works." "In thus recommending the general diffusion of medical knowledge, by an academical education, let it not be supposed that I wish to see the exercise of medicine abolished as a regular profession. Surgical operations, and diseases which rarely occur, may require professional aid; but the knowledge necessary for those purposes, is soon acquired; and two or three persons, separated from other pursuits, would be sufficient to meet the demands of a city consisting of forty thousand people."—[Dr. Rush.

From the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.

THE CALOMELITES' LAST CARD.

I have seen a statement in the "Thomsonian Sentinel" that the poisoning doctors of medicine in Philadelphia have resolved not to attend patients that have been treated by the Thomsonians.

I have good reason to believe that the same resolution has been made by the time-honored faculty of this city, although there has been no public annunciation of this singular event in the history of the liberal science of medicine. This unprecedented outrage upon the intelligence of the people, who are presumed to possess the right to select what physician, attend what church, and vote what ticket they please, is unequivocally the last act in their great drama of quackery and imposition upon mankind. What! a liberal profession in an enlightened community—a profession created and sustained for the praiseworthy and benevolent purpose of ministering to the public health, concentrating its forces and issuing its mandates forbidding its votaries to dispense their services to any but those who have never doubted their skill! And why do they take this bold step? Because they are surrounded by another class of physicians, who are growing into public favor by the exercise of their skill with the use of simple, safe, and efficacious means, and who are making rapid progress towards supplanting the medical use of poisons, bleeding, blistering, and their concomitants, in the fashionable method of treating the sick; besides, the honest M. D's. have imbibed the idea that by refusing their attendance upon cases where Thomsonians have been called, they shall intimidate the people into a belief that their services cannot be obtained on any

occasion, should it chance to become an object of desire.

I believe these "learned quacks" have very much mistaken the spirit of the intelligent people of this country, if they have the least hope that such a course will deter the friends of medical revolution from employing the Thomsonian physicians, or using the remedies that are instituted by their philosophical system of practice. No, they are far behind the intelligence of the age. The people are not to be seduced into the embraces of mercury and the lancet, by any of their childish threats of abandoning them to the skill of the Thomsonians.

How beautifully this evinces the sycophantic pretensions to a high regard for the health and happiness of the people! This last movement forcibly illustrates their disinterested zeal in persecuting the Thomsonians. It cannot fail to open the eyes of the people, and warn them of their danger while reposing in the arms of a profession that seeks not to promote the health of their bodies, but conspires to control their freedom of choice in selecting a physician. Such measures will only serve to arouse a spirit of inquiry among the people, and those who employ Thomsonian physicians will not be deterred from sustaining the physicians of their choice, by any of the ridiculous threats of the medical faculty.

A. N. BURTON.

Albany, N. Y., Nov., 1840.

From the Same.

MRS. MOUL'S LETTER.

Mr. Editor,—You are hereby informed that I feel a deep interest for the cause you advocate. It would seem that the great God of nature condescended to enlighten the world upon a very important subject, through the instrumentality of Dr. Samuel Thomson. The sons and the daughters of Adam have long sought for relief at the poisonous fountains of medical superstition, without obtaining any satisfaction. This I know from sad experience: Last spring I was attacked very violently with an "Inflammatory Fever," which assumed a variety of forms before I was restored to health. My husband and Dr. Arnold were my physicians; they prescribed Thomsonian remedies liberally. My neighbors were very uneasy, and fond of giving advice. But I chose to keep clear of M. Ds. and their poisons, and have no cause to regret the choice, I assure you. They brought up many objections to steam, cayenne and lobelia—but all to no effect. At one time, the lobelia was diffused through my system with the rapidity of electricity, and produced what is called the

"alarming symptoms," which lasted nearly two hours; during which time I could neither speak or move, but was conscious of all that transpired in the room. My returning strength was attended with a singular restlessness, that required one or two persons to keep me in bed, for some time. Immediately after this indescribable operation, my health began to improve, until an entire recovery took place. I believe that lobelia is entitled to the credit of saving my life; and if my female friends would resort to the Thomsonian method of practice when sick, the number of pale faces and delicate constitutions would be lessened, and the amount of enjoyment increased; besides saving many heavy bills of expense.

Yours,

Firmly wedded to the CAR of Thomsonism,

MARTHA MOUL.

Sand Lake, N. Y., Oct. 31, 1840.

ACUTE SENSIBILITY.

When we remember the dull sensibility of the liver, and the loose connection it has with the other viscera of the abdomen, and with those of the chest, by reason of the small number of its nerves, we are at a loss to conceive how this "remarkable sympathy" can exist between them; and if our judgments are unbiassed by theory—unwarped by *bile*, surely we are naturally led to question it; but if it be transferred, as it ought to be, to the alimentary canal, we are so far from being unable to perceive the source of that intimate and important sympathy subsisting between this and every other organ, and indeed with the remotest parts of the body, that we are surprised it has so long escaped due attention. For whilst the anatomist notes the comparative paucity of nerves distributed to the hepatic viscus, he is struck with the number and variety of them, almost innumerable, which ramify and subdivide upon the alimentary canal and mesentery, especially upon the upper part of the former. These, by their connections with each other, with the nerves of the spinal marrow throughout, and with those of the chest and head, establish such an intimate intercourse of sensations and affections between themselves, and every other part of the body, as readily explain the marked and powerful influence they exercise over the functions of every organ, even the most distant, and of both the external and internal surfaces. In these nervous connections, and in the elevated sensibility arising from and dependent upon them, we at once recognize the foundation of the constitutional origin of local diseases, and the source of those wandering pains and indescribable sensations, as well as of that great nervous depression and general disorder and debility, invariably accompanying an

unhealthy state of these assimilating viscera. By reason of these extensive and diversified associations, the stomach and bowels become a centre of sympathies; and disorder, originating here, rapidly propagates itself to every other part. Thus we see the propriety and necessity of attending closely to the state of these internal viscera, in diseases of every class and degree, whether original or sympathetic.

Though I do not consider the nerves as the exclusive instruments of sympathy, they are unquestionably the chief sources of it; and therefore it is a natural inquiry, where this "remarkable sympathy" clearly appears from disordered liver, and how does it arise, situated as this viscus is, so much without the nervous connections established between the remaining assimilating viscera, and all other parts of the body, by the important system of the great sympathetics, and the par vagum? These sympathetic nerves are the principal links which unite the internal nutritive functions, to those which keep up the relation of the animal with external objects: and it is by this bond of union that the derangement of their important functions, whether by acute or chronic disease, is necessarily attended with proportionate changes in all the acts of the animal economy, in the same manner as the defects of one wheel interrupt or disturb the mechanism of a whole machine.—[Dr. T. J. Graham.]

From Palmer's Prize Essay.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

To physical education belong the proper training and strengthening of all the powers of the body, and the avoidance of every thing calculated to injure its structure. Nature here is the great preceptress. If we only attend to her warnings, we shall seldom go wrong; and when we neglect them, we are sure of punishment, more or less severe. Our present duty, then, will be chiefly to point out the deviations from Nature's course, while the child is at school.

The first and most striking error in physical education, is the unnecessary confinement to which the child is subjected. At the early age, at which he first goes to school, nothing can be more painful, nor more pernicious. No one that has observed a child, between the age of three and six, can doubt that nature requires that he should be almost constantly in motion during his waking hours. At this period, he is all activity, forever engaged in some employment, by which he is acquiring knowledge, at the same time that he is developing and strengthening his physical powers. How painful then, how unnatural, must be his situation in school! Pent up, for

nearly six hours in a day confined to one seat, and that generally a very uneasy one, where, notwithstanding, he is forced to sit perfectly still and silent, without employment, (for the pretence of *study*, at that age, is truly ridiculous,) how irksome must be his condition, how prejudicial to his health! And what aggravates the evil is, that it is wholly unnecessary. For the extended confinement defeats the very purpose for which it is imposed. "The body and mind," says Sterne, "are like a jerkin and its lining. If you rumple the one, you rumple the other." Besides the injury to his health, his mind becomes heavy and dull, and his progress, consequently, is not half what it would be under a more rational course.

The next evil, imperatively calling for a remedy, is the improper location of the school-house. This, from a paltry spirit of niggardliness, is usually placed immediately *on*, nay, sometimes even *in*, the highway, to the constant annoyance of the school, from dust and noise, when it is in a populous neighborhood. There is commonly no play-ground. The scholars must either use the road for that purpose, to the manifest danger of their own lives and limbs, as well as those of passing strangers; or they must trespass on the adjoining property, thus giving rise to disputes and feuds in the community, and, among themselves, to a want of respect for the property of others, leading to various injurious results.

In many places, there is no wood-house; or, if there be one, it is too small to accommodate the children, during recess, in bad weather. They are consequently confined, at such times, to the school-room, where the checked prompting of Nature to play and exercise, spends itself in injuring the school-furniture.

The school-room is too small either for convenience, comfort, or health. The seats are narrow, and too high for many of the children, so that their feet hang dangling, thus adding to their uneasiness, increasing their restlessness, preventing proper attention to their books, and having, also, a direct tendency to produce deformity in the limbs. For, if the seat be narrow, half the thigh only rests upon it; if too high, the feet do not reach the floor. Now, most children go first to school while many of their bones are still in a forming state, little else but gristle, and when any of the numerous joints may be easily loosened or distorted. They go almost as early as when the Chinese turn their children's feet into the shape of horses' hoofs; or when some tribes of Indians make their children's heads as square as a joiner's box. And, at this period of life, the question is, whether the seats shall be conformed to the children, or the children deformed to the seats. Let any man try the experiment, and see how long he

can sit in an upright posture, on a narrow bench or seat, without being able to reach the floor with his feet, and, consequently, with the whole weight of his feet and the lower part of his limbs acting with the power of a lever across the middle of the thigh bones. Yet, to this position, hundreds of children are regularly confined, month after month; and while condemned to this unnatural posture, Nature inflicts her punishments of insupportable uneasiness and distress of every joint and muscle, if they do sit still, and the teacher inflicts his punishments, if they do not. A gentleman, extensively known to the citizens of this State for the benevolence of his character, and the candor of his statements, who, for the last twenty years, has probably visited more of our common schools than any other person in the State, writes to me as follows: "I have no hesitation in repeating what I have so often publicly declared, that, from the bad construction of our school-houses, there is more physical suffering endured by our children in them, than by prisoners in our jails and prisons." There are no convenient places under the desks for putting away the books and slates. The closet for hats and coats is small and inconvenient, or altogether wanting, so that the children acquire disorderly and wasteful habits with their clothes, either throwing them, carelessly, on the benches, or heaping them on the table, which leads to a scene of tumult and disorder at the close of the school. The room is badly ventilated, so that in cool weather when the doors and windows are kept shut, the children are forced to breathe the same air over and over, until it has become unfit for respiration, thus laying a foundation for debility and disease.

From the Macon (Ga.) Universalist.

SNUFF EATING.

In this article on, this "new thing under the sun," *chewing*, or *eating snuff* and by the *ladies* too; instead of making apologies for what some waspish dame may consider a rude invasion on her natural rights, leave is asked to remind our non-committed fair friends, (and we know they are in a large majority,) of the thousand objections and antipathies they have many times expressed against the chewing of tobacco, and indeed, against its use in any form whatever. We ask whether many a sighing swain has not relinquished his tobacco as a prerequisite to the possession of his wife? It is also asked whether they are not aware that we of the quid have been bound by courtesy always to abstain from its masticulation, while enjoying their presence and conversation? Knowing that we shall have an affirmative to these interrogatories, we

ask that every lady not already devoted to the evil complained of, shall lend her aid in the unanswerable appeal. How shall that be tolerated in our *fair* friends which to themselves has been so disagreeable in *men*? Rather than offer anything more ourself at present, this article shall be concluded by copying the opinion of an able physician of the west, including that of the justly celebrated Dr. Rush, whose opinions on any physiological subject continue to have much weight with the ablest medical men of our day. The western gentleman just mentioned, while deprecating this newly invented evil, says: "We are all acquainted with the effects of chewing and smoking tobacco, and using snuff in the common way; but we have something yet to be disclosed respecting the hitherto unheard of practice, among the females of our country, of regularly eating Scotch snuff! It appears from what I have been informed, and on veritable authority—or I would not believe it possible—that the practice among our ladies of daily eating considerable quantities of Scotch snuff, has arisen from their using it as a tooth powder! Yes, most courteous reader, a *tooth powder*! If this is any thing more than a pretext for the filthy and disgusting practice which taints the breath with a stench worse than *asafœtida*; deranges all the physical sensations, and the whole nervous system; imparting to the cheek of beauty the delightful complexion of a cake of bees-wax; subverts, ruins, and finally destroys the digestive powers of the stomach; and renders that stomach a filthy reservoir of dregs and crudities, tainting and corrupting the whole system." The evils arising from eating snuff, have not yet been half enumerated. Language would fail in classing and naming them: but hear what Dr. Rush says of this practice:

"I have known," says he, "two cases of death from eating snuff. It is a habit that is increasing among the ladies of our country, with a rapidity equalled only by the ravages of ardent spirits, and no less ruinous to health, and destructive of life. The practice had its probable origin in using snuff as a tooth powder, and hundreds among us, especially females, GET DRUNK upon it, every day of their lives." Dr. Rush might have said much more.

Among my acquaintance, there was a young lady of the first respectability, having a heart possessed of every noble and generous sentiment, who was in the habit of snuff eating. She was taken dangerously ill, and it became necessary to give an emetic, in consequence of which she threw up nearly *half a pint of snuff*!

How any young, blooming and tender girls can bear the use of snuff in this or any other way, after experiencing the wretched sensations always produced by it, is to me quite unaccount-

able; and I am unable to account for the fact that parents, knowing the evils of the practice, cannot merely overlook it in their daughters, but absolutely encourage it by their example. I really trust that these remarks, founded on experience and truth, may have some influence in restraining the practice of snuff eating, and restoring many of the fair of our country to the possession of their native charms and beauty.

AN OLD TOBACCO CHEWER.

OLD WOMEN.

Yet, amid all the sarcastic severities of those who would heap such defiling attributes upon the character of old women, how many happy memories throng for entrance into our hearts, when we pause to gaze awhile upon the countenance of the aged. The placid serenity which shines in the face of the old, is a type of repose, after all the storms of life, amid that haven whose end is the grave. In every family circle an aged female is a blessing and a stay. What though the unlovely attributes of age have usurped the place of beauty, and no longer develop those charms and attractions which in youth formed our heart's delight—let not the recollection vanish of woman's devoted love, her tenderness, and her cherished affections, lavished on those who, from the sunny heights of youth can now look down upon age seated by some lone fountain's side, whose murmur, though melodious, is yet mournful. To the aged, the days of delight are over; youth, and love, and tender joys, are gone from them forever. Old women are "sacred" to many. In every family home, and around every hearth, their "household" words are venerable and oracular. Their voices have a quiet melody, whose echoings fill every room with happiness; and if age be oft-times dark and unlovely, and a fretful disappointment ruffle the serene, calm hours of fading life—oft-times, also, do we meet with those in whom repining has no voice of complaint, or wailing, and whose hearts are calmed and purified by that inward "peace which passeth all understanding."—[Newark Advertiser.]

Some men ascribe all their unhappiness to the narrowness of their means; but place them in the immediate enjoyment of all that enters within the circle of their present hopes and desires, and they will no sooner have entered on the enrapturing possession, than new hopes and desires will begin to manifest themselves. You cannot place a man in such a situation that he will not look above it and beyond it; give him the whole of this world, and like the hero of Macedon, he will inquire for another.

PSALM OF LIFE.

Tell me not, in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream !
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way :
But to act, that earth to-morrow
Find us wiser than to-day.

Art is long, and time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

Lives of great men should remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footsteps on the sand of time.

Footsteps, that perhaps another
Sailing o'er life's stormy main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate,
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.

[Professor Longfellow.]

MANKIND AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY.—They had neither looked into heaven nor earth, neither into the sea nor land, as has been done since. They had philosophy without experiment, and mathematics without instruments, geometry without scales, astronomy without demonstration. They made war without powder, shot, cannon or mortars,—nay, the mob made their bonfires without squibs or crackers. They went to sea without compass, and sailed without the needle. They viewed the stars without telescopes, and measured altitudes without barometers.—Learning had no printing presses, writing no paper, no ink. The lover was forced to send his mistress a deal board for a letter, and *billet-doux* might be about the size of an ordinary trencher. They were clothed without manufactures, and their richest robes were the skins of the most formidable monsters. They carried on their trade without books, and their correspondence without posts—their merchants kept no accounts, their shop-keepers no cash books—they had surgery without anatomy, and physicians without materia medica—they gave emetics without ipecacuanha, and cured agues without bark.

APPLAUSE.—When I was a boy, I once went to the theatre. The tragedy of Hamlet was performed ; a play possessing some noble thoughts, and much subtle morality. The audience listened with admiration, and with applause. I said to myself when the curtain fell, "it must

be a glorious thing to obtain this empire over man's intellect and emotions." But now an Italian mountebank appeared on the stage—a man of extraordinary strength and slight of hand. He performed a variety of juggling tricks, and distorted his body into a thousand surprising and unnatural positions. The audience were transported beyond themselves: if they had felt delight in Hamlet, they glowed with rapture at the mountebank ; they had listened with attention to the lofty thought, but they were snatched from themselves by the marvel of the strange posture. "Enough, said I—I correct my former notion. Where is the glory of gaining applause or of ruling men's minds, when a greater enthusiasm is excited by mere bodily agility than was kindled by the most wonderful emanations of a transcendent genius." I have never forgotten the impressions of that evening.—[Bulwer.]

A QUACK DOCTOR.

"Well, Mike, I'll speak to some of my friends here about you, and we'll settle it all properly : here's the Doctor."

"Arrah, Mister Charles, don't mind him ; he's a poor crayture entirely ; devil a thing he knows."

"Why, what do you mean, man ? he's physician to the forces."

"Oh, by gorra, and so he may be," said Mike, with a toss of his head ; "those army docthers is n't worth their salt. It's truth I'm telling you : sure, did n't he come to see me when I was sick below in the hold ?

"How do you feel ?" says he.

"Terrible dhry in the mouth," says I.

"But your bones," says he, "how 's them ?"

"As if cripples was kicking me," says I.

Well, with that he went away, and brought back two powders.

"Take them," says he, "and ye 'll be cured in no time."

"What's them ?" says I.

"They 're amatics," says he.

"Blood and ages," says I, "are they ?"

"Devil a lie," says he ; "take them immediately."

And I tuk them—and would you believe me, Mister Charles ?—it's truth I 'm telling you—devil a one o' them would stay in my stomach. So you see what a docther he is !"

THE WAY TO THE WORKHOUSE.—The celebrated comedian, John Reeve, was once accosted by an elderly female, with a bottle of gin in her hand : "Pray, Sir, I beg your pardon, is this the way to the workhouse ?" John gave her a look of clerical dignity, and pointing to the bottle, gravely said, "No, ma'am ; but *that* is."

THE ELECTRICAL EEL AT THE ADELAIDE GALLERY.—This curious fish is 40 inches in length. It was not seen to eat until two month after it was brought to the gallery; but some blood was placed daily in a tub among the water, and this it is supposed, supplied it with the means of life. After it was experimented upon by Mr. Faraday it appeared to be in better health and commenced eating; making its first meal of four small fish: at present it eats one daily. It produces all the effects common to electricity—chemical decomposition, evolution of heat, the spark, &c. A fish between four and five inches in length, half a minute after it was caught, was placed in the tub with the eel, who appeared to be prowling about for food; the eel, forming itself into a coil, struck the fish, which instantly turned lifeless on its side; the eel then swallowed it with evident *gout*. The shocks of the eel, Professor Faraday found, are strongest from the tail; and a *gudgeon* which was thrown into the tub, evidently aware of this, kept his head opposite to that of the eel, and escaped;—there they were, *gudgeon* and eel, regarding each other with profound attention.—[English paper.]

UNLUCKY PAUSE.—A country actor performing the part of Richmond in the tragedy of “Richard III.” had the misfortune to find his memory completely desert him when he had reached the words—“Thus far into the bowels of the land have we marched on without impediment.” After having repeated these words several times, the audience testified their displeasure by a general hiss, when coming forward, he thus addressed them,—“Ladies and gentlemen, *thus far* into the bowels of the land have we marched on without impediment, and curse me if we can get any *farther*.”

VERY AFFECTING.—A sentimental youth having seen a young damsel shedding tears over something in her lap, took the first opportunity to be introduced to her, and made no doubt that she was a congenial spirit.

“What work was it that affected you so much the other morning? I saw you shed a great many tears. Was it Bulwer’s last?”

“I do n’t know what Bulwer’s last is,” returned she, “but I assure you I was doing a job which always e’enamost kills me. I was peeling onions!”

Dr. Helfer has exhibited a sample of wood oil to the Agri-Horticultural Society of Calcutta, found in the province of Tenasserim; the whole country is covered with trees that produce it, and the produce of a single tree is often 30 or 40 gallons.

A PHYSIOLOGICAL FACT.—A surgeon in the U. S. Army, recently desired to know the most common cause of enlistments. By permission of the captain of the company, containing fifty-five, in a pledge never to disclose the name of any officer or private, except as a physiological or metaphysical fact, the true history was obtained of every man.—On investigation, it appeared that nine-tenths enlisted on account of some female difficulty; thirteen of them had changed their names, and forty-three were either drunk, or partially so, at the time of their enlistment. Most of these were men of fine talents and learning, and about one-third had once been men in elevated stations in life. Four had been lawyers, three doctors, and two ministers. The experimenter believes, if it were not for his pledge of secrecy, that this would be as interesting a history, and would exhibit the frailty of human nature as fully as any experiments ever made on the subject of the passions.

WONDERS OF A WATCH.—The common watch, it is said, beats or ticks 17,160 times in an hour.—This is 411,640 a day; and 150,424,560 a year, allowing the year to be 365 days and 6 hours.

Sometimes, watches will run, with care, a hundred years; so I have heard people say. In that case, it would last to beat 15,042,456,000 times!—Is it not surprising that it should not be beat to pieces in half that time?

The watch is made of hard metal. But I can tell you of a curious machine which is made of something not near so hard as steel or brass; it is not much harder than the flesh of your arm. Yet it will beat more than 5,000 times an hour; 120,000 times a day; and 43,330,000 a year. It will sometimes, though not often, last 100 years; and when it does, it beats 4,333,000,000 times.

One might think this last machine, soft as it is, would wear out sooner than the other.—But it does not. I will tell you one thing more. You have this little machine about you. You need not feel in your pocket, for it is not there. It is in your body—you can feel it beat—it is your heart.

A GOOD THING.—A strong cement for glass, wood, &c.—Steep isinglass twenty-four hours in common white brandy, then gently boil and keep stirring until the composition is well mixed, and a drop, if cooled, will become a strong jelly. Then strain it through a clean linen cloth into a vessel to be kept closely stopped. A gentle heat will dissolve this glue into a colorless fluid. Dishes of wood, glass or earthen, if united with this cement, will break elsewhere rather than separate in the old break. In applying the cement, rub the edges which are to be united, then place them together, and hold them for two minutes and the work is done. This is very easily done, and incomparably better than any thing else for the purpose.

SECRECY.—Roses from Italy were first planted in England about 1522, and were consecrated as presents from the Pope, and placed over confessionals as symbols of secrecy about 1526. Hence the phrase originated of “under the rose.”

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 1, 1840.

THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY.

Thomsonism is the cause of humanity. When its author first kindled the fire of medical reform, and took the torch of improvement in hand, to seek out the hideous monster, "mystery," the blood-letters began to tremble; and well they might. It was plainly perceptible to them that "their craft was in danger;" and they set their wits to work to invent some trap to stop his progress. For this end the law was called to their aid; the ministry, in many instances, loaned a helping hand to put down the champion of *truth*—the enemy of oppression; the tongue of slander and the voice of deception and misrepresentation were in vain used as weapons against him; he knew the justness of his cause; and firm in his determination, his march was onward and he has triumphed most gloriously. Although the medical fraternity saw there was danger, little did they anticipate so complete a victory over their dearly loved science, as has been their chagrin to witness; for they cannot but observe the rapid advancement that is making in the opinion of the unprejudiced, and the withering, deadly, blow their cherished monopoly is destined to receive, wherever a fair trial of Thomsonism is had.

Within a few weeks we have had a chance of seeing more of the powerful effects of steam and lobelia in removing disease, than ever before in the whole course of our Thomsonian life. Having been from early childhood subject to what is commonly known as *bilious colic*, and suffered much, in times past, under the old practice, we can judge of its merits in such a case, which we pronounce to be worse than useless, as it only added to the disorder, weakened the system, and cramped the body already suffering near to death; and when relief came, by nature finally triumph-

ing over disease, the mineral and purgative had so exhausted the frame, that some days must elapse to admit of again attending to any business. Not so with the Thomsonian medicine.

Having had an attack of this disease a few weeks since, we went to Dr. Thomson's Infirmary, and one course of medicine, which lasted four and a half hours, finally triumphed over the disease, and left us the next day "as good as new;" able to do as good a day's work as ever. Reader, if you are troubled with this plague, or have a friend who is, take our advice, and never swallow a mouthful of the cold medicine, but go the whole for Steam, Lobelia & Co., and recommend it to your friends; and when once you have tried it, you will never have a desire to see a mineral doctor again.

We have seen the young man, bowed near the grave with a scorching fever, speedily restored to health and business by this company—the young lady, who had spent three months in the Massachusetts Hospital, suffering with lameness which was finally pronounced incurable, and she sent home as a cripple, relieved by three courses of medicine—the victim of fever and ague, who had tasted deeply of calomel and the lancet, restored to society and friends, after given over by the cold gentry as incurable—the rheumatic invalid restored to activity and usefulness—and the middle aged man, tottering to the grave with nervous debility, snatched from its portals and returned to his home, a joy to those who depended on him for support. All by this same Steam, Lobelia & Co.

These are the fruits of the discoveries of Dr. Samuel Thomson, which within a few weeks have come under our own eye, and this we say is the cause of humanity. And although our own experience is but as a "drop in the bucket," when compared with that of others, who have been engaged in the cause for years, yet we wish to add our mite in letting the world know the truth, as inculcated by Thomson. Will our friends lend us a hand, by giving reports of cases under their care?

MAN, COMPARED WITH VEGETABLES.

Man, being destined to perform loco-motion, could not have his roots in the ground; therefore he is provided with the cavity of the stomach, in which to carry about an equivalent to the soil for vegetation; and in this cavity centre numerous suckers, acting the part of vegetable roots in the soil; hence we perceive the necessity of eating frequently, to supply these suckers with nutri-

ment ; otherwise, they would become as the roots of plants in an arid soil, and the trunk and branches, losing all connection with their source of nourishment, wither away and die.

Healthy food, after being masticated and mixed with saliva, passes into the stomach, where it is converted into a soft pap by power of the gastric juice ; this process is known as the digestive : it then passes into the intestines, where the *chyle* is separated from the *excrementitious matter* by means of the bile ; the latter is evacuated from the body, whilst the former, (the only nutritious portion,) is taken up by numerous fine tubes, called *lacteals*, and carried through the blood-vessels to the heart. The heart is the centre of circulation ; and by its ceaseless contractions forces the blood through the arteries—which spread in all directions through the body, like the branches and leaves of a tree—to the extremities ; thereby distributing nourishment, supplying perspiration, renewing all the waste of the system and depositing in the glands throughout the body the various animal secretions.

Now, as we discover such a similarity of construction and operation in the animal and vegetable kingdoms, is it not much more reasonable for us to have recourse to the vegetable than the mineral kingdom for medicines ? is it not easier to conceive that vegetable substances—which in themselves possess warmth and life—will more readily assimilate with our systems than will mineral substances, in which there is no life, warmth or motion ? In fact, minerals are but the excrements of the other two kingdoms, and therefore repugnant to, and at variance with, our natures.

In taking the above slight view of the *modus operandi* of the human body, we are at no loss to account for the ill effects arising from taking into the stomach all sorts of unnatural substances—either in the form of food or medicine—as the natural operation consists in extracting merely *chyle* from the matter taken into the stomach ; no other substance being admitted into the circulating system ; all else is rejected where nature is permitted to act her part *untrammelled* by custom or fashion—*unaided* by art or science. But so long as *fashion* countenances the filling of the stomach with all sorts of heterogeneous and unnatural substances—more especially confection—and so long as *science* and *law* sustain the man-scourging, heart-rending, health-defying, life-destroying practise of following up this departure from the natural laws by the administration of the most poisonous and deadly drugs ; so long will man's health be inferior to that of the brute creation, and the vegetable kingdom.

I. H. A.

“HINTS FOR THE YOUNG.”

The above is the title of a little work from the pen of Dr. Woodward, of the Insane Hospital, Worcester, Mass., and should be read by every parent, and placed in the hands of all young people. The subject of which it treats, is one, the evil effects whereof, the young should be made acquainted with. We know of no man who is better calculated to speak of its fatal consequences than is Dr. W. ; as the situation which he fills in life brings him in contact with many of the victims of this health-destroying, mind-debasing vice.

The false modesty exhibited by parents in neglecting to teach their children a knowledge of themselves is inexcusable ; it is a duty they owe to their offspring to point out the dangers which beset their paths ; to teach them to be on their guard against secret as well as open vices ; and to give them a knowledge of the consequences sure to follow an indulgence in them.

We make extracts from the work referred to, that parents and guardians may see the consequences of this vice and teach their children the fearful effects of an indulgence in it. We would say, purchase this little work and circulate it ; it may rescue a dearly loved child from ruin.

MASTURBATION.

“The pernicious and debasing practice of Masturbation is a more common and extensive evil with youth of both sexes, than is usually supposed. The influence of this habit upon both mind and body, severe as it has been considered, and greatly as it has been deprecated, is altogether more prejudicial than the public, and, as it is believed, even the medical profession, are aware.

“It is perhaps as common with persons of apparently fair moral character, as with the openly vicious. Such persons are often surprised that it should be considered a vice, or a cause of disease, having supposed it quite harmless.

“The indications by which parents and friends may be led to suspect this vice, are ill health, especially debility, paleness, with a downcast look and a disposition to retirement and seclusion, a jealousy and suspicion of those in whom they used to place confidence, and who were former associates and friends. In the progress of the disease, the victim of it becomes apprehensive that friends dislike and avoid him, that he is the subject of ridicule and censure, and is an object of inspection, marked by every one who comes into his presence or passes by him in his walks. Hence he retires from society, and chooses to be alone,—while alone he sometimes talks to himself, and often laughs much and frequently, and sometimes aloud.

“A great number of evils which come upon the young at and after the age of puberty, arise from this habit, persisted in, so as to waste the vital energies and enervate the physical and mental powers of man. Nor less does it sap the foundation of moral principles, and blast the first bud-

ding of manly and honorable feelings which were exhibiting themselves in the opening character of the young.

"Many of the weaknesses commonly attributed to growth and the changes in the habit by the important transformation from adolescence to manhood, are justly referable to this practice.

"This change requires all the energy of the system, greatly increased as it is at this period of life, which if undisturbed will bring about a vigorous and healthy condition of both the mental and physical powers.

"If masturbation be commenced at this period, it cannot fail to interrupt essentially this important process, and if continued, will inevitably impress imbecility on the constitution, not less apparent in the body than the mind, preventing, as it will not fail to do, the full development of the powers of both.

"The individual becomes feeble, is unable to labor with accustomed vigor, or to apply his mind to study; his step is tardy and weak, he is dull, irresolute, engages in his sports with less energy than usual, and avoids social intercourse; when at rest he instinctively assumes a lolling or recumbent posture, and if at labor or at his games, takes every opportunity to lie down, or sit in a bent or curved position. The cause of these infirmities is often unknown to the subject of them, and more generally to the friends; and to labor, or study, or growth, is attributed all the evils which arise from the practice of this secret vice, which, if persisted in, will hardly fail to result in irremediable disease or hopeless idiocy. The natural consequence of indulgence in this, as in most other vices, is an increased propensity to pursue it. This is particularly true of masturbation. In my intercourse with this unfortunate class of individuals, I have found a large proportion of them wholly ignorant of the cause of their complaints, and if not too far gone, the abandonment of the habit has, after a while, removed all symptoms and resulted in confirmed health.

"One young man, now under my care, was first arrested in his career by reading the chapters on this subject in the *Young Man's Guide*. For many months he has totally abstained from the practice, and yet he is feeble, depressed, irresolute, and unable to fix his attention to any subject, or to pursue any active employment. But he is steadily convalescing, and will doubtless recover.

"If the symptoms above enumerated do not lead to apprehensions of danger, and are not followed by a discontinuance of the habit, other symptoms more formidable, and more difficult of cure, will present themselves. The back becomes lame and weak, the limbs tremble, the digestion is disturbed, and costiveness or diarrhoea, or an alternation of them, takes place. The head becomes painful—the heart palpitates—the respiration is easily hurried—the mind is depressed and gloomy—the temper becomes irritable—the sleep disturbed, and is attended with lascivious dreams, and not unfrequently, nocturnal pollutions. With these symptoms the pulse becomes small, the extremities cold and damp; the countenance is downcast, the eye without natural lustre; shamefacedness is apparent, as if the unfortunate victim was conscious of his degraded condition.

"The stomach often rejects food, and is affected

with acidity and loathing; the nervous system becomes highly irritable; neuralgia, tabes dorsalis, pulmonary consumption, or fatal marasmus, terminate the suffering, or else insanity and deplorable idiocy are the fatal results. Long before such an event, the mind is enfeebled, the memory impaired, and the power of fixing the attention lost. These are symptoms which should awaken our attention to the danger of the case, and which should induce us to sound the alarm, and if possible, arrest the victim from the inevitable consequences of persisting in the habit.

"There seems to be a strong influence from this secret vice upon the eyes. A learned professor informed me that he had never seen a case of *gutta serena* that was not attributable to this practice, or excessive indulgence of the sexual propensity. Weak eyes, and particularly neuralgia of the eyes, or a pain in the eyes without apparent inflammation or local disease, probably often arise from it. I recently saw a cataract forming in both the eyes of a young female whose general health had been greatly impaired by this practice."

The following is one of many cases mentioned by Dr. Woodward, as the consequences of an indulgence in this degrading vice.

"W., a young man twenty years of age, had been feeble and dejected for two years. He was pale, torpid, irresolute, and shamefaced in the extreme—so much so, that I could not catch his eye during a sitting of an hour. He complained of his head, of short breathing and palpitation of the heart, and of extreme debility. His extremities were cold and damp, his muscular system remarkably flabby, and his snail-like motions evinced great loss of muscular strength. His father, who accompanied the young man, said that he had consulted many physicians without benefit. The moment that he came into my room I was strongly impressed that he was a victim of this solitary vice. I questioned him some time without ascertaining the cause of the disease. His father was wholly ignorant, and the physicians had not suspected it, or inquired concerning it. I requested a private interview—told him the danger of such habits, the importance of ascertaining the true cause of disease, and my suspicions that he was in this habit, and that if so, he would soon fall a victim to its influence. He then acknowledged that he was in the daily practice of it, and had been for three years—that he often also had spontaneous emission, &c. He had never suspected that it had any influence upon his health. This young man afterwards became insane and idiotic. He is now a most disgusting, filthy idiot, and will probably never recover."

✎ Our friend of the Philadelphia Home Physician, is in ecstasies that a friend of his recovered by taking purgative pills, after trying, as he says, the Thomsonian remedies in vain for relief. We are glad to hear of his friend's recovery, but we doubt much as to the medicine which he took being *Thomsonian*. Did you never hear of counterfeiters? And would you give *purgatives* in case of mortification of the bowels?

The following extract of a letter from a gentleman who was an extensive traveller in Europe, about 100 years ago, to one of his friends, shows that his opinion of the *great men* among the medical faculty at that time, was similar to that held by Thomsonians of the same men at the present time. With all their learning, experience must improve them; and what can experience do, unless they use the medicine that nature designed for the removal of disease? Unless physicians treat the disease, and leave the jargon of names to take care of themselves, there is more chance for an increase of both, than a cure of either; and as that is the custom in general practice, we should sooner think of trusting to the ignorance of the unlearned, than to depend on the college bred for a cure.

“Of all the arts, physic is the most uncertain. If they who apply it, did not study anatomy, and some other sciences relating to the practice of a surgeon, I'll maintain it, that a man might in three days commence a physician, and know all the great secrets of this dangerous art. 'T is true, that long experience and frequent visits of the sick, convey some ideas of certain symptoms, by which a physician may improve; but till he has killed a good number of patients, he cannot cure one; so that a physician must only be considered as one that has just taken his degree of doctor; and viewing him in this light, I believe that three days' study will be sufficient to acquaint him with the chief secrets of his profession.

“There are but six remedies in physic; and all the several names by which they are called, only denote their different compositions, or their stronger or weaker preparation, which still amounts however to the same thing. This, therefore, is the whole system of physic; mercury for venereal maladies; sulphur for external disorder of the skin; ipecacuanna for dysenteries; the emetic for distempers that require a strong evacuation; the quinquina or jesuits bark for fevers; rhubarb, sena and cassia for slight purges. Bleeding is as much the surgeon's province as the physian's. To the knowledge of these remedies all the doctors in the universe reduce the whole of their science. Indeed they sometimes invent certain drugs and new compounds; but they are always obliged to return to the first principles that are known and practised by the meanest apothecaries in the kingdom, who cure as many patients as the physicians here do, and perhaps kill not near so many. At least, 't is certain, that there die more people in proportion in the cities, than in the villages; and that there's not a city in Eu-

rope where there are fewer old men or women, than at Montpellier.

“Nevertheless, I am not willing to rob the doctors of this city of any reputation which they have justly acquired; for I look upon them as learned physicians and great anatomists: this enables men for the cure of the stone, fistulas, and in short, all distempers, wherein the hand is capable of restoring health to the body. As to known subjects, the physicians of this country have an infinite advantage over others. But when internal disorders are to be cured, the sources of which are hidden, as fevers, dysenteries, pains of the head, &c., they are no more than country apothecaries; mercury, ipecacuanna, bleeding. And if the patient does not recover, *more mercury, ipecacuanna, bleeding.*—Let the advocates of physic be ever so much offended at these jokes, the whole of it is reducible to these remedies which all mankind knows.—If a physician has any small advantage over a country barber, it must be in such cases, where the maladies which he is called to, are curable by remedies applied immediately, and where the hand itself can be laid upon the part affected.—Then the knowledge of physic and of anatomy renders the hopes of a cure in a manner certain.

“I can hardly forbear thinking of the science of the physician as the philosophers do of *matter* upon which *matter alone is capable of acting*: so the former can't hope to cure the parts of the human body, but when they can act upon them immediately; as soon as they have recourse to foreign helps, they are no better than the meanest apothecaries. I talked to several learned physicians with the same freedom as I write to thee. They did not indeed agree in every thing that I said to them, for they maintained that experience made amends for the incapacity of knowing and seeing what passed in the human body. But they owned that this experience was extremely difficult to acquire, and that the first patients that fell under the management of a physician were in a very dangerous crisis. Thou knowest what they say of the physicians. They think they are justified in trying projects upon the unfortunate poor people, to gain experience for the benefit of the rich. Thou hast heard the story of a scholar who was carried sick to an hospital, where he heard three physicians debating in Latin, whether they should not try the success of a remedy upon him, that was enough to give him his death. One of those doctors actually said they ought not to be careful of such a vile creature. It was happy for the sick man that he understood Latin. He made use of that knowledge to reproach them in a pathetic manner for their pernicious design, and his learning was of service to him; for as soon as his physicians per-

ceived it, they treated him with a great deal of regard, took vast care of him, and delivered him out of the sad condition in which they found him. May the God of our fathers keep us out of the hands of such people, and preserve us in health, which of all enjoyments is the most precious!

"They have a custom in this country, which I hold to be proper to keep the body in health and activity. The youth are trained up to several exercises, which promote a great perspiration, and make the blood circulate freely."

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

Misther Editor:—I want to be afther adding my "last will and testhimony" in favor of the Thomsonian practice. Well thin, I tuk a very bad cold as long ago as St. Pathrick's day, and faith now, and want it a hard one. Botheration to it, it giv me sich a rheumatis in the legs that I could n't stand up without falling down—and whenever I walked, faith and 'ouns, I jist stod still; and whin I went to bed, I set up all night. Well, me ould women doctored me as she used to in me oun counthry, but divil a bit the good did it do; if I was in a free counthry, I could not git freed from the reumatis; so I sint for the docthor. And whin he come, an sure, thinks I now I'll be afther gitting well in less thin no time. So he walks up to me, an says he "Let's see your tongue."

"Me tongue is it ye'd be afther seeing? do n't ye mane me leg," says I, "for faith, that's what pains me?"

"No! I mane your tongue," says he, "that will indicate the state of your legs."

"The divil it will," says I, "what a strange counthry this free counthry is." So I put out me tongue, and the docthor said it was a very bad one entirely. "And now," says he, "let me have your wrist."

"Me wrist," says I, "do n't ye mane me knee; for sure nothing is the matther of me wrist?"

"No! it's your wrist I want," says he, "to be afther feeling your pulse."

"Afther feeling for my *purse*? ah! ye divil ye, and is that your game?" says I.

"Your pulse, not your *purse*," says he. So afther feeling me pulse, as he called it, he said I had the "Inflammatory Rheumatism," and that I must be bled. Well, Misther Editor, he bled me, and thin giv me some white powthers to take, and I got worse ivery day iv me life. Faith, now, I could not stratten me legs at all at all; and me

misthery was complate, it was. Well, this docthor attinded me six months, an I groud worse all the time. So I tould him not to come innny more, for he did me no good, an sure. In liss thin an hour he sint in his bill, and, O murther! he had charged me \$100, and all for making me worse. "The divil take 'im," says I. "It was me *purse*, afther all, that he wanted. This counthry is most too free for me, faith it is." Well, the blackguard thit brought the bill said it must be paid thin, or the docthor woud be afther gitting an execution on ivery thing we had. "Q, murtheration," said me ould woman, "is that monsther of a docthor gouing to *execute* me dear man?" So she ran to the Sivings Bank and was back before she stharterd, with the money, and giv it to the blackguard, who made thracks with it. What a divil of a free counthry it is, thought I—and what free docthors.

Well, Misther Editor, jist at this moment John Carney come in, and tould me there was a place at No. 40 Salem Sthrate, where they could cure the reumatis before a man had it.

"Faith now, and how are they afther doing it?" says I.

"They stame it out iv 'im," says he.

"I'll be afther thrying it," says I. So John got a coach and tuk me right down there. Well, the Thomsonian docthor tould me I could walk hnm before night. "Divil a bit," says I, "for I can't stand on me throtters." "We shall see," says he. So he giv me a cupful of stuff to dhrink, and O, St. Pathrick, want it hot? But this want afther being a beginning. He thin giv me some medicine in a way strange enough, and afther that he put me in the stame box, to sweat me. Blood an 'ouns, what a staming I got. But I felt all the better for't. He thin put me in bed, and put a *young stame-box* to me throtters. Thin he bro't me a cupful of stuff he called coffee, and said Lohalia was in it. "What will it be afther doing to me," says I.

"It will make ye vomit," says he.

"What!" says I—"you do n't mane to say I shall puke up the reumatis?"

"I should n't wonder," says he. So I down with it. "O, murther, what a dose," says I. "Instead iv *low-Billy*, I think it is *high-Johny*; for sure it is high stuff."

Well, in less thin no time, I felt very bad entirely—jist as if I had two Kilkenny cats in me. But afther I vomited fraly, I felt like anither man. He thin put me in the stame-box agen, and stamed me a few minutes. I thin dhressed meself, and as throe as I'm an Irishman, I could walk quite asey—and in a few days I was well, entirely. I ounly had to pay thra dollars for being cured. It

is a praty free counthry, afther all, thinks I. Well, when I wint home that night, me ould woman did n't know me, an faith, I hardly knew meself. I was not the same man, at all, that I was in the morning—and Bridget coud n't belave her oun eyes. She said she had been afther hearing much about stame, but she did belave before that they coud stame a man well, in less thin no time.

They are very kind pape down to the doethors, and I recomind all me counthrymen to go there whin they are sick.

PATRICK O'FLUMMERTON.

Boston, Nov. 5, 1840.

For the Manual.

THE TRIUMVIRATE.

Come, lend an ear, and you shall hear
Events of wond'rous weight, sir ;

If me you doubt—before I'm out—
The rest I'll not relate, sir.

A man did rise, from *brushing flies*,
To medicating *pukes*, sir ;

And to proclaim his own great fame,
Forsooth, he must have books, sir.—

To gull public, requir'd "classic"
And learned gentlemen, sir ;—

These, 't is alleg'd, were quickly pledg'd
To wield with power the pen, sir.

The work began by this great man,
Did "natives" quite astound, sir ;

The two did write, both day and night—
The third, medicines ground, sir.

One of the three—"Catch-penny" he—
A "*Botany*" would write, sir :

Though twice they say, he's receiv'd pay,
Yet brought forth naught to light, sir.

A second man, of this great clan,
Is full of learned lore, sir ;

At any rate, so says his mate—
The one "what" keeps the store, sir.

Third in this late triumvirate—
Though first in order—ranks, sir,

The great man, who, months past, but few,
Knew less of *pukes* than *shanks*, sir.—

He does now boast "himself a hoast"
In making medicine, sir :

And defies all, "both great and small,"
To match him in this line, sir.

'That all may know where 's the "Depot,"
He 's signs both red and large, sir ;

And those who'd shun, 'may read and run'—
Or stomachs he'll discharge, sir.

Wherein there 's blame—another's name
Is used, repute to gain, sir ;—

And yet they say, from day to day,
"We're *honest, fair, humane*," sir.

I've sung my song, so "jim along"—
But think of these "small fry," sir—

The man of *books*, and he of *pukes*,
And likewise "*Botany*," sir.

SPRIG.

Haletown, Nov. 20, 1840.

FASHIONS FOR NOVEMBER.—Doubled-soled shoes, thick stockings, a flannel petticoat in place of one of thinner material. This is for the sensible portion of the female community exclusively, and those who expect the day may be far distant when their friends will be summoned together to follow their corpses to the place of interment. These are the chief requisites. Those who follow the Atlas' fashions in the above respect will be too sensible to commit any egregious blunders in other clothing. Those ladies who are candidates for death, will continue to wear their silk stockings and very light *pumps*, so called from their sucking up water. They will also, as a matter of course, if they can get it by hook or by crook, wear a superb black velvet mantilla or short cloak, lined with white satin and deeply fringed and trimmed with ermine ; also an ermine muff to match, by which means they will have the supreme felicity of picking foolish husbands' or fathers' pockets of a few hundred dollars.—[Exchange paper.]

ADVICE.—It is an office of good neighborhood, and emphatically of true friendship, to be ready to give advice, when it is needed or desired. This mode of kindness is the more meritorious, as it often proves to be labor lost. Still the amount of good which a person of experience, talents and weight of character may by this means effect, is no inconsiderable contribution to the public and individual welfare. He employs a liberal portion of that discretion and zeal in persuading others to serve themselves, which we seldom want in our attempts to engage them in favor of our private views ; he consults proper times ; is careful to appear actuated by good will, and to obviate the suspicion of intending to show his authority, or gain a trophy to his superior wisdom. Thus he frequently succeeds in correcting the errors of his friends, and leading them in a right course.

The delicacy of friendship, however, exacts attention to one rule on this subject, which requires more self-command than is always easy to men of warm feelings. Take it from bishop Taylor's discourse on the measure and offices of

friendship. "Give thy friend counsel wisely and charitably, but leave him to his liberty, whether he will follow thee; and be not angry if thy counsel be rejected; for advice is no umpire; and he is not my friend that will be my judge whether I will or no. Neoptolemus had never been honored with the victory and spoils of Troy, if he had attended to the tears and counsel of Lycomedes, who being afraid to venture the young man, fain would have had him sleep at home, safe in his little Island."

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New Book.**TO THE THOMSONIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

The public mind has been agitated for two and a half years past, in relation to a revision of my Narrative and New Guide to Health, by Morris Mattson, who has had said work in hand for said purpose.

After the original time for said work to be completed had expired, I added seven months more of time, in order that no reasonable excuse could be offered, on his part, for not having the work complete. I also loaned Mr. Mattson \$1150 in cash, so that there should be no deficiency on my part, so far as money could facilitate the work. On the 1st of June, the time appointed for the completion of the work, the Narrative had not been commenced; the plates were not finished; and what was read of the description of the remedies, was defective. I therefore gave up the idea of Mr. Mattson being competent to put the work in complete order for publication, and concluded he did not design to do the work as agreed upon. I also found that the wants of the people were, that the Book should be written or compiled by a PRACTICAL man, *Mr. Mattson not being such.*

I therefore dissolved all connection with said Mattson, relative to the publication of said work; and shall now go on with it myself, assisted by my son, Dr. John Thomson, of the City of Albany, N. Y., and am in hopes to produce a work during the coming season, that will meet the approbation of the long disappointed community.

No pains will be spared to furnish a work that will meet the wants of the public. The Narrative will be embellished with a new Portrait of the Author, on steel—and the New Guide will contain numerous engravings of the principal plants used in the Thomsonian System of Practice; together with new remedies.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

From the Boston True Thomsonian of Sept. 15. 1840.

"We are sometimes asked whether Dr. M. [Mattson] intends to publish his work, on the supposition that Dr. Thomson's copy right is good for nothing. Dr. M. informs us that he does not know whether the copy right is good, or good for nothing. He does not intend to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson's book, and therefore will not violate his copy right, admitting its validity."

N. B. I am willing Mr. Mattson should publish his work, on the above condition—that is, if he does not copy from my book.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Dr. Samuel Thomson's

ONLY place in Boston for vending his Medicines, prepared under his NEW PATENT, is at his Store and Infirmary, No. 40 SALEM St. Beware of Counterfeits—many are using the THOMSONIAN NAME, under which to sell their drugs.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct 1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, payable in advance. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, free of postage, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass."

Editors with whom we exchange will confer a favor by giving the above an insertion.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON would inform his friends and the public, that he has prepared for publication, and will issue in a few weeks, the *genuine* THOMSONIAN ALMANAC. Those who prefer the *genuine* to the *spurious*, will send in their orders without delay, to No. 40 Salem street, Boston, Mass. oct 1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.”—SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, DECEMBER 15, 1840.

[NUMBER 3.

HEAVEN ON EARTH.

This world 's not “all a fleeting show
For man's illusion given;
He that hath sooth'd a widow's wo,
Or wiped an orphan's tear, doth know
There 's something here of Heaven.

And he that walks life's thorny way,
With feelings calm and even;
Whose path is lit from day to day
By virtue's bright and steady ray,
Hath something felt of Heaven.

He that the good man's course has run,
And all his foes forgiven;
Who measure's out life's little span
In love to Truth, and love to man,
On earth has tasted Heaven.

ONE REMEDY.

It is said, “Grant that Dr. Thomson may have discovered something that is good in certain forms of disease, it is unreasonable to believe that one remedy can cure all diseases.”

In the first place, we remark, that Doctor Thomson does not pretend to cure all diseases with one remedy. He has pointed out more than seventy of the best articles of *materia medica*, and given his followers certain plain rules for the discovery of as many more as they please. But, suppose that he had said that all diseases might be cured by the administration of a single article! it would not be unreasonable, because it is not impossible. Indeed, analogy proves it quite possible. We well know that the single article of bread will sustain the life of man, and promote the growth of animals of almost every kind. I have seen a full grown ox never eat anything but milk. These articles of food will produce in man, nails and hair; in horses, solid hoofs; in oxen, divided hoofs and horns; in cats, fur and claws; and in fowls, feathers; in fishes, wholesome food; in serpents poison, &c. Is it not, therefore, not only possible, but even probable, that one substance may yet be found that will remove all the aches and ills that flesh is heir to? Would such a discovery surprise the thinking and ingenious of the present day, more than the sight of a locomotive steam engine would have surprised the dwellers upon earth a century ago? And would they not have been as reasonable in declaring impossible, what our eyes now see, as

we are in saying that it is impossible even to discover a universal remedy for all diseases!

Again, it is said that the vast variety of diseases to which the human frame is subject, cannot be traced to the same cause. You are, therefore, wrong in saying that disease is *one*.

We answer, first—If, in this assertion, we err, we are in company with not a few of the greatest men that ever devoted their attention to the science of medicine.

But how is the error proved? The Thomsonian believes in the unity of disease; others believe in a great diversity of diseases—each acts according to his faith. He with universal remedies; they with an endless variety of “local.” What is the result? He *cures* all that are not constitutionally dead: they *lose* often the most robust and promising youth.—[Dr. A. Curtis.

From the Thomsonian (O.) Recorder.

CAPSICUM.—CAYENNE PEPPER.

Dr. Samuel Thomson has the honor of ascertaining the merits of this article as a remedial agent. It is true, it had been sparingly and occasionally used in the treatment of disease, even before Thomson's peculiar genius discovered its extensive remedial application and its almost matchless restorative powers.

By the use of this article, it was given to Samuel Thomson, a man “whose soul,” (to use the poet's language,)

“Proud science never taught to stray,
Far as the solar walk or milky way.”

I say, to him it was given, through the agency of this article, to discover and exhibit those great and immutable principles in practical medicine, which are interwoven in the very constitution of things; which are destined, ere long, to become the great pillars of the temple of Medical Science, and which shall remain to immortalize the name of their venerable discoverer, when the names of his persecutors, opposers, and calumniators, shall have been buried in the lowest depths of eternal oblivion.

His reasoning, from the effects of this medicine on the system, might have been like the following: Cayenne, when taken into the stomach, warms the whole body, increases the vital action, restores the natural secretions, equalizes the circulation, and re-establishes health. Now

if this substance warms the body and increases the vital action, and, by so doing removes diseases, disease itself must be a deficiency of vital heat and action. Hence his conclusion that "cold is death, and heat is life; giving one of the undeniable characteristics of each of these states, without specifying all the peculiarities of either. He found this article to have the above mentioned effect, not in one case alone, but in every case coming within the limits of his extensive experience, where a sufficient degree of life remained to be acted upon; for it is to be recollected that medicines act upon vitality, and are only active in proportion as it is susceptible of its peculiar powers of stimulation.

Since such numerous beneficial effects have been produced by Thomsonian physicians with this agent, writers on the *Materia Medica*, are venturing to drop, occasionally, a few incidental remarks upon its properties and virtues, desiring undoubtedly to admit its merits into their works by degrees, and hoping, thus, finally to be considered the investigators and discoverers of its invaluable medical properties.

The authors of the United States Dispensatory, speaking of this article, call it a powerful stimulant, producing, when swallowed, a sense of heat in the stomach, and a general glow over the body, without any narcotic effect. "It is much used as a condiment, and proves highly useful in correcting the flatulent tendency of certain vegetables, and bringing them within the digestive power of the stomach." That is, strengthening the digestive powers and rendering them so active as to counteract the production of gas, which is so uniformly produced from certain aliments, when received into a weak stomach. "To the Sulphate of *Quinia*, it forms an excellent addition, in some cases of intermittents, in which there is great want of gastric susceptibility." "It acts by exciting the stomach and rendering it susceptible to the action of tonics. Upon the same principle, it may prove useful in low forms of fevers." It would doubtless prove useful, upon the same principle, in those cases of fever where the grade of the fever has been rendered low by the use of the lancet, opium, and calomel! "Its most important application, however," say they, "is, to the treatment of malignant sore throat and scarlet fever. No other remedy has gained equal credit in these complaints."

Here it is acknowledged that Cayenne is the very best remedy in scarlet fever. But it is usually contended by the same class of physicians, that stimulants must not be given in fever. If it is good in scarlet fever, why is it not good in every other fever? Fever is the same thing in all cases, differing only in degree and extent. Cayenne is the same in all cases, differ-

ing only in strength, (excepting its adulterations.)

Again: "applied externally," they say, "Capsicum is a powerful rubefacient, very useful in local rheumatism and in low forms of disease, where a stimulant impression upon the surface is demanded. It has the advantage, under these circumstances, of acting speedily without endangering vesication."

"In dropsies, and other cachetic complaints, when chalybeates are indicated, a small portion of powdered Capsicum is recommended as an excellent addition by Dr. Wright; and Berzelius says he used it with success in obstinate cases of intermittents. "Cataplasms from Capsicum, are much used in the West Indies, to relieve the coma and delirium which almost constantly attend tropical fevers."

Thus, writers on this article, have acknowledged it to be valuable without even suggesting that its use is apt to be followed by dangerous, or in any respect deleterious effects. Yet interested and prejudiced practitioners of the fashionable system, are constantly crying out against this medicine, not unfrequently reporting cases of patients being burnt up by its use! Such men must be either unpardonably ignorant, or basely dishonest; and I think there is much reason to believe that they are principally guilty of the latter.

As a general and permanent stimulant, Cayenne is decidedly the best that I ever used. In cases of fever, where the skin is dry, the tongue parched and covered with fur, the stomach inactive and weak, the bowels torpid and affected with diarrhœa, the urine scanty and high colored, and the brain congested; nothing is so certain, so efficient, and yet so safe, in the removal of these difficulties, as Cayenne. It does it by its natural stimulating powers; thus restoring all the secretions. But in cases of this kind, as well as in most all others, Lobelia is an excellent pioneer. It does the work quick; it puts things in order, and then the Capsicum keeps them so. Hence Dr. Thomson has very judiciously placed Lobelia first, as this should go ahead and prepare the way. Nothing is so sure to correct that disagreeable taste in the mouth, attendant in cases of fever, as Capsicum. It excites the salivary glands to a natural action, causing them to pour into the mouth an abundance of saliva, as pure and sweet as the limpid streams from the mountain's side.

It also clears the fur from the tongue, restores the secretion of the gastric juice, and recalls the appetite. It obviates costiveness and checks diarrhœa; allays nausea and checks hemorrhages; and, if properly used, does all other things which a good article of medicine may of right do.

D. L. TERRY.

[From the Southern Botanical Journal.]

HEMLOCK.

Under the head of Correspondence will be found two letters in relation to this article. Whatever objection to it may have presented itself to Dr. Thomson's mind and induced him to erase it from the list of his remedial agents, it certainly was not that it was poisonous. His extensive employment of it in his early days, clearly showed him that it was not poisonous, but on account of its too great astringency he rejected it.

The fuss made about it by our enemies evinces on their part either total ignorance of the properties of the article in question, or willful falsehood when they say it is poisonous.

There are two kinds of hemlock made use of in medical practice; one by the old school, the other by Thomsonians. The first is the "*canium maculatum*," or as it was formerly called in the dispensatories, "*cicuta*." This is a deadly narcotic, possessing only in a moderate degree stimulant and sedative properties. Vertigo, dimness of sight, sickness of the stomach, faintness, and general debility of the muscular fibre, follow its use, as its full effects on the system. Larger doses however are productive of worse consequences, such as dilated pupils, difficulty of speech, delirium or stupor, tremors and paralysis, and finally convulsions and death. Its action is commonly manifested in less than half an hour.

This article Thomsonians never touch, much less take internally. It almost affects our head to write about it.

The hemlock of Dr. Thomson's *materia medica* is the "*pinis canadensis*." It is usually called hemlock spruce, in the United States and Canada. It is a forest tree, often seventy or eighty feet high, and two or three in diameter for two-thirds of its length. From this tree the hemlock pitch, analagous to Burgundy pitch in its medical properties, is procured.

Those who say we use poisonous hemlock must be ignorant that there are two articles bearing this name; or that they differ in botanical characteristics, the one being a towering tree and the other a plant of from three to six feet in height, or that they differ in medical properties, the "*canium maculatum*" producing the effects above described, while the "*pinus canadensis*," the inner bark of which is alone used, is simply astringent, stimulant and tonic.

If they contend they know all this, then we charge home upon them malicious falsehood, when they say we employ hemlock that is poisonous. They can choose either horn of the dilemma.

Every man should be his own physician.

[From the Health Journal.]

EXERCISE OF INFANTS.

A proper attention to exercise, is not less important during the early periods of infancy, than in after life. Upon it depends, in no trifling degree, the health of the little being, as well as the proper developement and freedom from deformity of every part of its body. An infant is, however, from the state of its organization, unfitted to sustain any very active exercise. Its bones and muscles are as yet incapable of bearing the weight of the body, and of course all the exercise it can enjoy is that which is communicated to it by its nurse or attendant. The earliest species of exercise to which children are submitted, is that of rocking in a cradle.— Without objecting to the motion thus communicated, when it is gentle and not too long continued, or too frequently repeated, we must be permitted to say that under opposite circumstances it is more or less injurious. It is especially so when resorted to immediately after the child is taken from the breast, or for the purpose of composing it to sleep when restless or fretful.— The best exercise for a young infant is obtained by allowing it to amuse itself upon the nurse's lap, and by carrying it frequently about in the arms. When sufficiently old to be attracted by surrounding objects, taking it frequently into the open air, especially in the country, during the milder seasons of the year, has a highly beneficial influence. The freshness, beauty and variety of the scenes of nature are highly attractive even at a very early period of life, and the impressions resulting from them are always of a salutary kind. In carrying an infant, some important precautions are necessary. The back bone is at this period almost entirely composed of a soft yielding substance, that is incapable of supporting the weight of the head and other parts which rest upon it, in the erect position of the body. To prevent deformity, therefore, a young child should not be held in a sitting posture upon the arm of the nurse; it ought always to be carried in the arms in a half lying position, so that the head, and every part which bear upon the spine, receive a proper support.— In delicate infants, a permanent bending of the body to one or other side has frequently been caused, by their being carried for too long a time in the nurse's arms without changing the position in which they are held. To obviate this, the child should be carried by turns, on both arms.

It is very common to toss a young child up and down in the arms, held at full length from the body. The action thus communicated is of too violent a kind to be borne with impunity in the early periods of infancy, to say nothing of

the serious accidents which may result from it, even when the utmost care is observed. As soon as a child is able to sit alone, placing it upon a carpet or soft cushion spread upon the floor, and allowing it to amuse itself with its toys, is far preferable to constantly nursing it in the arms, or allowing it to be rocked for hours in a cradle.

It is only at the end of the ninth month, and frequently even later, that it is proper to learn a child the use of its feet. As a general rule, no particular attempt should be made to induce it to walk at an early period; the bones not having acquired a sufficient degree of solidity to support the body, every effort to place the child upon its feet, is calculated to produce considerable and permanent deformity; and so far from promoting, to retard the growth of the body. In learning a child to walk, it should be left entirely to its own efforts; all artificial support is injurious; as generally applied, this support has a tendency to produce an unnatural elevation of the shoulders, while the infant, depending upon it almost alone for the support of its body, is accustomed to bend too much forward, or to one side. By this may be laid the foundation of a permanent deformity, or at least of an ungraceful gait, which it is often impossible, in after life to correct. All that need be done to induce a child to walk at the proper period, is to place it upon a carpeted floor, and to present to it at a little distance some attractive object: the desire of obtaining this will overcome the fear of falling, which is experienced in first attempting to walk alone; and in a very short period the tottering and uncertain step which is then exhibited, will give way to a firm, confident and upright carriage. Even after it has learned to walk, a child should not be urged to use its feet for too long a period at a time. The powerful and novel action into which the several muscles are thrown, produces very quickly fatigue, while it is to be recollected that the bones are still easily bent, when they are called upon to sustain the weight of the body, and the force of the muscles, for any length of time.

TIGHT LACING.

I have said tight corseting, obstructing the free passage of the blood downward, throws it into the superior portion of the trunk. But it does more; it forces it, in preternatural quantities, but impaired in quality, into the head, and produces there many forms of disease that are painful and annoying, and some that are dangerous. Among these are headache, giddiness, bleeding of the nose, imperfect vision and other affections of the eyes, noise in the ears, convulsions and apoplexy. Fainting is another effect

of this preternatural accumulation of blood in the brain, the reason of which is plain. While the corsets are on and laced, a sufficient quantity of blood is sent to the brain to enable that organ to sustain, by its influence, the heart and muscles of voluntary motion, and hold them to their functions. As soon, however, as the corsets are unlaced, the blood forsakes the brain, in part, and flows naturally through its downward channels. The consequence is obvious. The brain being thus enfeebled, for the want of the blood necessary for its vitality, and the functions it performs, and its invigorating influence being no longer extended to the system generally, the heart and muscles fail in their action, and the individual faints. This occurrence takes place on the same ground with fainting from venesection or any other form of hemorrhage. Too much blood is drawn from the brain. That viscus is deprived, of course, of much of its vitality and power to act. Nor is this all. It is deprived, also, of much of the material from which it prepares its sustaining influence for the body generally. For, whatever the matter of cerebral influence may be, it is prepared from the blood, as certainly as bile and saliva are.

Almost all females who lace tightly, complain of weakness when their corsets are removed; and many of them are obliged to assume a horizontal posture, to escape asphyxia. Worse still. Some are compelled to wear their corsets as a part of their night-dress! Even a horizontal posture does not secure them from a tendency to faint. This is so deplorable a condition, that the practice which induces it involves criminality. Many acts are called felonious and made punishable by law, which, contrasted with this, are innocent. By permitting it, parents, especially mothers, assume a responsibility which might well make them tremble. They are accessory to its consequences, however fatal. Indeed, possessing, as they do, full powers of prevention, they should be considered principals.

Perhaps all females who wear corsets, though they may not faint on removing them, nor even feel a tendency to that effect, complain of unfitness and debility in the back, or some other part of the trunk. The reason is plain. The muscles of the part being weakened by pressure, require the continuance of it, as the sot does the repetition of his dram to give them tone and strength to sustain the weight of his body in an erect position. Hence the individual bends the trunk ungracefully; and, unless the vigor of the muscles be restored, she is threatened with a spinal curvature.

Even beauty of countenance is impaired, and, in time, destroyed, by tight corsets. Do you ask me in what way? I answer, that those instruments of mischief wither in the complexion

the freshness of health, and substitute for it the sallowness of disease—on the spots where the rose and the ruby had shed their lustre, they pour bile and sprinkle ashes. They do still more, and worse. They dapple the cheek with unsightly blotches, convert its fine cuticle into a motley scurf, blear the eyes, discolor the teeth, and dissolve them by caries, and tip the nose with cranberry red. That effects of this description often result from gastric and hepatic derangement, every practitioner knows. And it has been already shown that such derangement is produced by corsets.

But those articles make still more fatal havoc of female beauty by imprinting on the countenance—not premature wrinkles—but marks of the decay of MENTAL BEAUTY—I mean deep and indelible lines of peevishness, fretfulness and ill temper, the bitter result of impaired health. No form of indisposition so incurably ruins the temper of woman, as that which prematurely destroys her beauty, especially if she feels conscious that her own indiscretions have been instrumental in its production. To the truth of this, experience testifies. Independently, moreover, of their cause, no other complaints pour into the temper such acerbity and bitterness, as those of the digestive organs. This is also the result of experience. Man, but more especially woman, bears fever, pulmonary consumption, fractures, wounds, and other forms of injury and disease, with patience and mildness, which, if they do not improve her personal beauty, increase her loveliness, and add tenfold to the sympathy and sorrow felt for her suffering. But dyspeptic affections, especially, I repeat, if a busy and tormenting consciousness whispers hourly into her ear that she has herself contributed to their production, by a practice she might have avoided, and of the ruinous effects of which she was repeatedly warned—complaints of this description are submitted to, by her, in a different spirit. She becomes irritable, capricious, gloomy, and full of complaints and fearful imaginings. Unhappy in herself, she seems, in contradiction with her nature, to forget or disregard the happiness of others, and does not even shrink from proving the bane of it. I intend not these remarks as a censure on woman. Far from it. I mean them as a denunciation—and would that it were exterminating—of the abominable practice that destroys her health and peace, and mars her loveliness.

Under this head I shall only add that, in the higher walks of life our fair countrywomen, especially in the Southern States, are more delicate and feeble in constitution, and therefore less robust in health, than they are in Europe—more so certainly than they are in Great Britain, France or Germany. The slenderness of their

frames testify to this. It is noticed by all strangers, of observation, and cannot be otherwise regarded than as an evil, ominous of the degeneracy of our descendants. Women, constitutionally feeble, cannot be mothers of a vigorous offspring. There is reason to fear that this fragile delicateness will, by means of a spurious taste, pass into an element of female beauty, in the United States; and that will render it a national evil to endure for ages. That this will be the case, is not to be doubted, unless the proper remedy be applied. Nor is this remedy unknown, of difficult application, or dubious effect. It consists in well-directed physical education. That that will remove the evil, appears from the fact that the females of our country, in the middle and lower ranks of life, who take sufficient exercise in the open air, and do not injure themselves by their modes of dress, are as healthy and vigorous as any in the world. No man of taste wishes to see our highly cultivated women with milk-maid complexions or harvest-field persons. But, had they a little more of both than they now possess, they would be not only more comfortable in themselves, but more lovely in the eyes of others. In the European countries referred to, cultivated females neither house themselves so much, nor marry at so early an age, as they do in the United States. Hence their health is better, and their frames stronger.

Suppose two statues as large as life, accurately executed, one of them resembling the ancient, and the other the modern beauty; which would be preferred by the taste of the present day? The question requires no reply. A suitable answer arises spontaneously in the mind of every one. The modern statue would be pronounced “deformity”—perhaps a “fright;” the other a miracle of beauty—and the decision would be just.

I know of but one other custom so perfectly calculated to produce a degeneracy of the human race as that of contracting the dimensions of the waist of woman, weakening her constitution, and distorting her spine; and even *that* is in some respects less injurious. I allude to the practice of the Caribs, the most brutal and ferocious tribe of American Indians, in *flattening their heads*. Nor does the custom of the savage produce deformity more real, than that of the civilized and fashionable female. Yet the effects of the one are looked on with professed admiration; while those of the other are regarded with horror. Compared to either of them, the practice of the Chinese ladies, in disfiguring their feet and ankles, is taste and innocence.

Finally.—One of the leading benefits to be bestowed on our race by physical education, ju-

diciously practised and carried to the requisite extent, is the production and preservation of a well-adjusted balance, not only between the different portions of the brain, but of the whole body. Few persons, if any at all, bring into life with them a system perfectly balanced in all its parts. Some organs predominate in size and strength, while others are comparatively small and feeble. This is a tendency to disease, and can be removed only by competent training. Let it never be forgotten that the proper exercise of a part, and that alone, increases both its bulk and power, and, at the same time, diminishes any excess of sensitiveness it may possess. And this is precisely what small and feeble parts require, to place them on a par with others and secure their health. To illustrate my meaning, and show it to be true:—

Is the chest of a boy narrow, and are his lungs weak and irritable? Let those parts be habitually exercised, and such a change may be produced in him as will give an equipoise to his body and prevent disease. His chest and lungs may be enlarged not a little, and as well secured from complaints as his other organs. From the free and constant exercise which their calling gives to their arms, shoulders, and other thoracic walls and viscera, London boatmen have large chests and are strangers to consumption. The loud and habitual call, moreover, by which they announce their business and solicit employment, aids in the development and strengthening of their lungs. From these causes, though perpetually exposed to the damp and chilling air of the Thames, they rarely experience any form of pectoral disease.—[Caldwell, on Physical Education.]

PHYSICIANS.

Physicians appear to be less unfavorably situated than their brethren of the bar and of the church; for we may be friendly and virtuous without depriving physicians of their livelihood. Yet are they, also, to a certain extent, viciously situated.

It is a very common opinion that men and women cannot be trained to be their own physicians; and it is probable that there are cases of rare or complicated disease, or of dangerous accident, in which the experience gained by extensive medical practice, may be necessary to suggest a remedy, or to perform an operation. But in nine cases, at least, out of ten, a very moderate acquaintance with the human body, and with its functions, and with the causes that impair, and the precautions that preserve these, would enable us with ease to cure, or—yet better—to prevent, the nascent indisposition. This is a fact which has repeatedly been acknow-

ledged, both in private and in public, by the most eminent physicians. And its accuracy is the less to be doubted, inasmuch as it is notoriously the pecuniary interest of physicians to conceal it.

Admitting, then, its truth, how injurious the ignorance in which children are kept of what it most concerns them to know! And how desirable, that a few, at least, of the days and years that are spent in learning the languages and the customs of two semi-barbarous nations of antiquity, should be devoted to learn that, the knowledge of which will advantage us every day of our lives.

But, however desirable for the mass of mankind, that they should be taught how to retain that first of blessings, health; and that they should further be taught how to regain it, when lost;—it is *not* the interest of the physician. It is not his interest that his neighbors should know anything about their own bodies: it is not his interest that they should be taught how to retain their health, nor how to arrest an incipient malady by some simple remedy. Other men's ignorance, is his gain. Their follies fill his purse. If they were educated as common sense dictates, he would be a poorer man. If they knew what they ought to know, his knowledge would turn to less account. Common sense, therefore, is, in a pecuniary point of view, the physician's enemy.

Again, how important is it that men and women should know the consequences of excess; and that, knowing these, they should not be tempted to act against their knowledge! How inexpressibly important that there should be no gin-shops, nor any of those houses—the bane of great cities—where popular morality abandons to disease and death its outcast victims!

Yet it is the physician's interest that all this should go on. Intemperance is his patron. A debauch is a harvest for him. Gin-shops and brothels make him a rich man. Each ruined constitution brings him a customer and a fee. He may—doubtless he does—lament all this, for no one knows all its horrors as he does; but he must be more or less than man, if he does not feel that he lives by it.

The physician knows that the customs and the morality which are now popular, produce both vice and disease. The honest and enlightened physician will tell you so. He will tell you that monkish chastity and brutal license are, equally, the causes of misery and disease. He will tell you that health and peace of mind are to be found in moderation only, and that extremes have filled his consulting-room and his purse. Ask him how it happens that so many of the young and unmarried of both sexes appear on the list of his patients; and he will tell

you of the prudish severity with which society dooms one sex to restraints, and of the temporizing injustice with which she winks at the scarcely-veiled libertinism of the other. Ask him what he thinks of the professions of the popularly moral; and he will tell you that they are commonly as hollow, as the reality of these professions were unnatural and pernicious. Ask him what he thinks of the present code of morals, in itself; and he will tell you that as a physiologist, he disproves and condemns it. But, as a physician, he profits by it; unwillingly, indeed, if he be an honest and a worthy man, but yet positively and certainly. If society's customs, and society's morality, encouraged moderation in all things, and discountenanced, not whatever was opposed to her capricious etiquette, but whatever was opposed to health of body and tranquillity of mind—men would be happier and better; but physicians would lose their practice.

However beneficial, therefore, it might be, that we should know our own diseases, and learn to prevent and to cure them, we must not expect that physicians, as a class, will take much pains to destroy their own avocation. We must not expect them to tell us (however well they know it) that we are the best judges of our own sensations; that we can detect symptoms in ourselves that are hidden from them; that we have the most experience of our own constitutions; and that, thus, even with an inferior knowledge of medical science, we can prescribe much more readily and rationally for ourselves, than any person can for us. We must not expect that physicians will risk at once their reputations and their fortunes, in order to tell us that if we were but rational and practical physiologists, we should regret the morality which now prevails, as unnatural, and productive of suffering and disease: nor can we require that physicians should labor zealously to promote temperance and thus to prevent diseases. All this it were unreasonable to expect, because men do not like to ruin themselves, nor even to diminish their own earnings.

If we wish to make it the interest of physicians that mankind be temperate, prudent, rational and healthy, let us pay them, like the medical attendant of the Chinese Emperor, in proportion as we escape disease; but if we desire to make ourselves independent and usefully intelligent, let us go still farther. Let us recollect that to be a practical physiologist, is incomparably more important than to be a latinist or a greekling. If we are too old to learn, let us give our children a knowledge of themselves; let us bid them attend carefully to their own sensations; let us gradually make them their own physicians. We shall not then see them first ruining their own constitutions, and then

paying to have them patched up again. We shall not see them tempting disease and death with their eyes shut, and horror struck when at last they discover the natural consequences of their conduct; ignorantly imprudent to-day, and weakly apprehensive to-morrow; committing excesses one hour, and soliciting prescriptions the next. As, when we are our own servants, our wants diminish, so, if we were our own physicians, would our diseases decrease.—[R. D. Owen.

THE NECESSITY OF REFLECTION.—The habit of exercising the mind in reflection upon the future, as well as the past and present, is one of the most valuable that can be established. And yet is one in regard to which the young are extremely liable to fail. The present—with its amusements and its gayeties, absorbs the greater portion of their thoughts. And when they occasionally glance at the future, it is, too often, but to dress it in the bright attire of the imagination, in the blooming garland of life's sweetest pleasures. When the ship approaches a dangerous coast, a "look-out" is stationed to warn of the approach to reef or breaker. So the young, navigating the dangerous voyage of life, should establish reflection as the "look-out," to give timely notice of those fatal shoals of imprudence and vice, upon which so many, originally possessing the brightest prospects, have been wrecked.

Reflection is an important safeguard in selecting associates, forming habits, choosing occupations, and, indeed, in all that concerns youth. The young man or the young woman who think deeply, will act wisely. They will be aware of the nature of the dangers which hover around their path, and therefore will act cautiously and safely. They will be enabled to penetrate those specious appearances in which vice so frequently presents itself—they will look beneath the gaudy veil which so often covers the deformities of sin, and behold the native blackness of the monster. They will be aware that "all is not gold that glitters," and will readily detect the gilded imitation when it would occupy the place of the pure metal. They will weigh well the influences and the effects of every important step, and not be led astray by the deceitful devices of the transgressor.

HUMAN HEADS ON LONDON BRIDGE.—The head of the noble Sir Wm. Wallace was for many months exposed from this spot. In 1471, after the defeat of the famous Falconbridge, who made an attack upon London, his head and nine others were stuck upon the bridge together, on ten spears, where they remained visible to all

comers, till the elements and the carrion crows had left nothing of them but the bones. At a later period, the head of the pious Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, was stuck up here, along with that of the philosopher, Sir Thomas More. The legs of Sir Thomas Wyatt, the son of the poet of that name, were exhibited from the same spot during the reign of Mary. Even the mayors of London had almost as much power to kill and destroy as the kings and queens had, so reckless was the age, of the life of man. In the year 1335, the mayor, one Andrew Aubrey, ordered seven skinners and fishmongers, whose only offence was rioting in the streets, aggravated by personal insult to himself, to be beheaded without form of trial. Their heads were also exposed on the bridge, and the mayor was not called to account for his conduct! Jack Cade, in the hot fervor of his first success, imitated this fine example, and set up Lord Saye's head at the same place, little thinking how soon his would bear it company. The top of the gate used to be like a butcher's shambles, covered with the heads and quarters of unhappy wretches! Hentzner, the German traveller, states that when he visited England, in 1598, he counted no less than thirty heads upon this awful gate. In an old map of the city, published in the year preceding, the heads are represented in clusters, numerous as the grapes on a bunch.—[Mackay's Thames and Tributaries.

LIBERATION OF PROFESSOR ARNDT.—Professor Arndt, after being shut up in a fortress for twenty-one years, his struggles, his sufferings, and his name almost forgotten, has, we learn by the German papers, been restored to liberty. Young men will ask, we are afraid, in Germany, as they ask in England, who is Arndt? Four or five and twenty years ago a professor of his name was the terror of the German government. He was imprisoned, not for his misdeeds, but for his popularity. The students sung his hymns to liberty, repeated his burning words, and frightened Kings. By the patriotic exertions of Germans, the French were driven across the Rhine, and when they demanded their promised reward of a Liberal Constitution, they were answered with stripes, dungeons and fetters.—Arndt we believe was one of those who felt most deeply the faithlessness of the King of Prussia, and most loudly and eloquently expressed his indignation. For that he was imprisoned, and for that he has been kept in prison for twenty-one years. The present King of Prussia has the merit of releasing him, of restoring him to his professorship, and of compensating him for a part of the pecuniary loss he has sustained by his imprisonment. But the tyrant who confined him could no more restore Arndt the years of

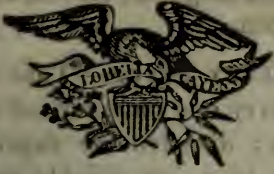
which he deprived him, than he could restore the dead to life. Arndt has been robbed of them, and robbed of his fame, past all human power to give him redress. For twenty-one years he has been dead to Europe, and he now comes forth from his dungeon only for men to ask, Who is Arndt?—[London Sun.

THEORY OF THE WIND.—Wind has been explained in the following manner: Heated air has a tendency to rise, and cold air rushes in to supply its place. Thus the heated air of the equatorial regions rises and gives place to a current sent from the polar regions, which is a process that serves to equalise the temperature of the world. But the polar countries lying near to the axis of the sphere, the air from those regions has not received so much motion as that about the equator, or greatest distance from the axis; wherefore, it arrives at the equator, where the motion of the earth is greater. If it had no motion before, an east wind would be the consequence, and the force of that wind would be as the difference between the motion of the earth where the air came from, and that where it arrived; but then it has a motion to the south; for it is rushing into a vacuum left by the air which rises; so that the wind will not be from the east, but north-east; and the number of degrees north of the east from which it will blow will depend upon the comparative force of the current of air from the north to the difference between the earth's motion at the equator and at the polar region, from whence the air comes. As there must be a corresponding influx from the equator higher up, according to this theory, the wind should every where be north-east or south-west, but it blows in very different directions at different times and places; this probably depends on the variations in temperature at different times and places.—[Foster's "Researches about Atmospheric Phenomena."

HOME.—There is something inexpressibly touching in the story of Ishmael; the youth was sent into the wilderness of life with his bow and his arrow, "his hand against every man, and every man's hand against him." Even in our crowded, busy, and social world, on how many is this doom pronounced! What love makes allowances like household love? God forgive those who turn the household altar into a place of strife? Domestic dissension is the sacrilege of the heart.

PROPERTY OF NUMBERS.—Mr. Joseph Hall, a teacher of mathematics, at Macclesfield, has discovered that the sum of the products contained in the 144 cells of the common multiplication table is 6084, a square number, the root of which is 78, and which root is equal to the sum of the numbers contained in the first column. If the table be extended to 20 times 20, or indeed, to any given number of times, still the operation will exhibit a similar result, the sum contained in the first column squared, will be equal to the sum of all the products in the number of cells which the table may contain.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 15, 1840.

✍ We are happy to inform our friends and the Thomsonian public, that Dr. John Thomson, of Albany, N. Y., is making rapid progress in revising and re-writing the medical work of his father, Dr. Samuel Thomson. The friends of the Thomsonian medical practice, will be glad to learn, that the disappointment to which they have been subjected by the failure of M. Mattson to get out the work according to contract, and in a reasonable time, is soon to give way to the reality of having a work written by a man who is every way acquainted with the practice. Had Morris Mattson succeeded in getting out his edition for Dr. T. as contracted for, it is not to be expected that his work would have embodied so much useful matter, and been of so much benefit to the people as one from the hand of a person who has added practical experience to a thorough acquaintance with Thomsonism. The work will be done on fine paper and new type, and embellished with a portrait of Dr. Thomson on steel. The botanical portion will be ornamented with fine steel engravings, highly and elegantly colored.

In a letter to us, respecting the work which he is preparing for publication, Dr. T. makes the following remarks:—

“I am employed day and night in correcting, revising, and re-writing my father's book. It must have justice done it; and therefore I cannot hurry it out of my hands. I have already copy enough for over one hundred pages; but as I intend the work to be an honor to the founder of the Thomsonian system of medical practice, I cannot promise you that it will be ready for the printer before spring. At all events, by the time it is promised (sometime in the ensuing season) I intend it shall be ready for purchasers; that is, my work shall be finished in season to enable the book to be printed and in the market. I have been informed that the public are anxiously waiting, and

make enquiries for the work. It cannot be expected that I can get it out in a satisfactory manner, in a few weeks. My endeavor will be, to satisfy those who are looking for the work, both as to matter and time.”

Although no part of Dr. Thomson's letter was intended by him for the public, we take the liberty to make the above extract, to let our readers see that the work may be depended on, the assertions of enemies to the contrary, notwithstanding.

Below will be found some remarks on “*Red Raspberry*.” It is intended for the work, and was forwarded by Dr. J. Thomson to his father, for his inspection.

RED RASPBERRY.

RUBUS STRIGOSUS.—The leaves unarmed, rigidly hispid: leaflets three, or pinnate-quinque, oval, at the base obtuse, acuminate, marked with lines, and white-downy beneath; calyx acuminate: flowers axillary and white, and solitary at the ends of the branches; peduncles and calyx hispid. Berries sweet, acines very slightly attached.—[Prof. Eaton.]

RED RASPBERRY FOR CANKER.

The *Red Raspberry* leaves and berries are the only parts of this plant used by me as medicine. When at Eastport, Me., in 1811 or 12, I was much in want of some article good for canker; and I had recourse to my usual method of testing the virtues of plants by the sense of taste. I chewed some of the leaves of the raspberry very fine, and soon found they left a rough sensation in the mouth, exciting the *salival glands*; causing a free expectoration, and leaving the interior surface of the mouth moist and pliable, and the sense of taste as acute as before. An article possessing such qualities, I have always found to be serviceable in all cases where medicines for canker were required. I gathered a large quantity of the leaves, at that time, and dried them, and have been in the constant use of the plant ever since, and have found my anticipations of it more than realized, both for canker and complaints of the bowels. For relax and other bowel complaints in children while teething, it is the best remedy I have ever found. Giving the tea to drink, and using it by injections, generally affords immediate relief. The raspberry leaves may be used freely as a very good substitute for imported tea, (*thea Chinensis*), and no injury is to be apprehended from it.

RED RASPBERRY IN MIDWIFERY.

Red raspberry is the best article for a woman in travail, of any thing I know of. In such cases, it should be given in strong tea, sweetened, with a

little No. 2, and it will bring on the labor-pains regularly, and will reduce the irregular pains to order and regularity ; affording rest to the patient in the intervals. If the labor-pains are untimely, it will quiet them ; if timely and lingering, give freely of No. 2 and umbil, or nerve-powder, in the tea. This will hasten the labor by assisting the natural functions of the body, and when the pains are entirely gone, the *rest* and *quiet* of the patient is as excessively great, in proportion, as the pains were severe in the labor. Thus the patient is recruited, and is ready, much refreshed, and encouraged to meet the next attack ; and will so continue until the child is born. Should a relaxation of the muscular system be required, before delivery, in consequence of the size of the fœtus, or the thick set frame and close habit of the body of the woman ; to half a cup of this tea sweetened, with the nerve-powder and No. 2, as before mentioned, add one teaspoonfull of the brown emetic, (lobelia seed,) well pulverized, and let the patient take it ; and an injection of the same compound may be used, keeping the patient covered as warm as may be comfortable. These are the only *forceps* that should ever be used.

After taking the lobelia as above directed, the muscular part of the whole system is relaxed, and with this general relaxation takes place that of the cartilaginous substance of the bones of the pelvis—which separate mechanically, and contract again as regularly to their proper places, after delivery, as also does the womb or uterus. All that is necessary after the medicine has thus prepared the patient, is, for the midwife to attend to her duty. After the child is born, give it some of the same tea, occasionally, with milk and sugar, for a few days ; this prevents the sore mouth so much dreaded by mothers. It is also good to wash sore nipples with.

RED RASPBERRY FOR POULTICES.

A poultice made with this tea, and thickened with sponge crackers, or fine Indian meal, with the addition of a little slippery elm pulverized, is good for burns, or scalds ; if the skin is off, by applying this poultice, or washing with the tea, it will soothe and stop the smarting of the sore. It is an excellent poultice to apply to biles, whitlows, and old canker-sores, that are inflamed, when supuration has not taken place. With the addition of a little cayenne, or fine mustard, it makes excellent drafts for the feet, to relieve the excessive circulation to the head. The strong tea is good to wash old sores with, and sore eyes. It may be used to good advantage in the No. 3, as a substitute for the other articles, or alone. Every

family should have a supply of the prepared red raspberry (*rubus strigosus*) leaves, as almost a universal catholicon.

RED RASPBERRY SYRUP.—Take of the juice of the red raspberry one pint, refined sugar two and a half pounds ; dissolve the sugar in the juice with a gentle heat—sit it aside for twenty-four hours ; then remove the scum, and pour off the clear liquor from the dregs, if there be any.

Again:—Take of the juice of raspberries strained, after the dregs have subsided, three parts ; refined sugar, five parts : dissolve the sugar.

Another:—Take of the juice of fresh raspberries, two pints—as soon as the dregs have subsided, put the juice into a brass kettle and subject it fifteen minutes to the heat of boiling water : when cold, strain it through a sieve and form a syrup.

This syrup forms a pleasant beverage for the sick, or those in health, by putting a suitable quantity into cold water.

It were extreme folly to contend in regard to *points* in medicine, with the “Thomsonian Manual,” for the simple reason,

“That man convinced against his will,
Is of the same opinion still.”—

[Botanic Med. Reformer, Phil.]

☞ Really, Mr. Reformer, you are rather uncharitable in accusing us of dishonesty, merely because we differ with you in regard to the use of *cathartics*. We are as honest in our belief now, as to the evil effects of cathartics, as we once were when in favor of them ; and our “will” is entirely out of the question : when you, or any other “Reformer,” have convinced us, we shall *not* be
“— of the same opinion still.”

The Reformer has recurred to the subject of “Cathartics” two or three times, but previous to the number now before us, (Nov. 16,) we have seen nothing advanced in way of proof. As there is an outward show in favor of purgatives in this case, we will take the liberty of examining the ground taken by our Philadelphia neighbor, somewhat closely, and perhaps we may be able to convince him “against his will,” that his arguments are not o’erpowering.

The Editor of the Reformer bases his argument on two cases which have come under his own observation, and one hear-say case. He says he was requested to visit a Mr. B., who had been attended some days by a Thomsonian without receiving any benefit, and by giving him “three or four pretty purgative pills” at bed time, with intermediate treatment, for about a week, he entirely recovered.

Again he tells us that he was called in to witness the last few hours of two young and interesting children who had been doctored by a Thomsonian to no good effect. "We asked if the children had had any discharges, they answered, only the clysters came away, nothing else—to our mind, the proof was positive, that had they taken of some vegetable purgative, that would have acted upon the whole alimentary canal, they would not have died."

The third case related by the Reformer, is of a small boy who had eaten a large number of green chestnuts—a Thomsonian physician was sent for, and after having exhausted all the Thomsonian materia medica, to no purpose, physic was given, "and brought away that which emetics had failed to do."

As this last case did not come under the observation of the Editor of the Reformer, and as he commences the narration with "we have been informed," we shall pass over it—not impeaching in the least your veracity, Dr. Cooke—with the solitary remark that it sounds "very much like a fish story." The case of the two children proves nothing, except the fact itself that they died under what you supposed to be Thomsonian treatment. You say the physician who attended them was a "pureite [i. e., a thorough-going Thomsonian] at that time, turned since." We do *not* say he was not a sound Thomsonian at that time, but we *do* say, that if he were, it is the first case that has ever come to our knowledge where a real Thomsonian has deserted, and joined other ranks. If such was the case, he might even then have been wavering as to which course to pursue with his patients, and in such case he would not do justice by any system of practice. Let this be as it may, the children died; and no power on earth can say for a certainty what would have saved them.

The first case related by the Reformer, although we have thought proper to take it up last, is the most important, by far, of the three; for he gives us his own experience—relates circumstances which occurred under his own observation—tells us of facts which we have no reason to doubt, nor wish to misconstrue. But do these facts prove the inefficiency of Thomsonian remedies? the superiority of "purgative pills" over Thomsonian injections? are the questions to be answered. We never argue against experience, for upon that basis, in connection with natural and philosophical principles, we rest our belief in the Thomsonian system of practice. Therefore, so far as our friend of the Reformer will sustain his position by practical experience and sound principles, he may rest

assured of meeting with no opposition from us. But to the point.

We are told that "the Thomsonian commenced by giving Composition and No. 6, in full and frequent doses—the man still laboring under the most distressing symptoms," &c. &c. "All this while his bowels were constipated,—no evacuations per anum—things still continued in this way for a day or two, when the Thomsonian gave him emetics and clysters, he followed them up briskly, they still had no good effect," &c. &c. "The Thomsonian finding his medicines of no avail thus far, was put to his wit's ends,—and ordered Mr. B's. family to still persevere in the Composition, No. 6, emetics and the vapor bath,—they did so,—and still little or no better." Now we explicitly deny that the above treatment was Thomsonian, and will rest our denial upon the evidence of every Thomsonian in the country. Would a thorough Thomsonian wait "a day or two," before giving injections, when the patient was "laboring under the most distressing symptoms, high fever, and extreme flightiness?"—and "all this while his bowels constipated?" Certainly not. And would he discontinue the injections while the patient remained in this condition? No, no, friend Cooke, if such was the course of treatment, say not that it was Thomsonian! After the patient had been thus treated, without benefit, he was restored to health by taking "purgative pills!" So says the Reformer. Even admitting that this patient was treated on the pure Thomsonian plan, and afterward recovered while taking purgatives, it proves but little one way or the other. The Editor of the Reformer will undoubtedly admit that our systems oftentimes undergo great changes, independently of medicine, and that Nature will assert her supremacy, even when contending with poisons. Consequently it is unsafe to admit into the materia medica every article the administration of which may have been followed by favorable symptoms. This is the manner in which so many poisons have crept into the places of medicines. However, as an off-set to the case as reported above, we will briefly relate a few facts which we are knowing to.

Two young men, cousins of ours, were taken down with Bilious Fever, about the same time.—They were attended by a physician who gave freely of cathartics—they grew worse—he tried all the purgative medicines best adapted to their cases, but still no relief—their friends urged the use of injections, but the physician said they would not answer. The eldest died—the other was fast approaching death—his friends then resolved upon

giving warm injections—the very first one relieved—they followed up giving them, and in a few days he was about.

We are certain we can furnish as many cases, to say the least, where injections have relieved, after purgatives have failed to do it, as can be adduced to the contrary. We do not found our objections to cathartics, on this ground alone; but because they attract the circulating juices from their natural channels. Cathartics, force nature—injections, aid her.—Friend Reformer, will you “give credit where credit is due?”

The 7th number of the Boston True Thomsonian contains an article from the pen of Morris Mattson, in relation to an article of ours which was published in the Manual of November fifteen. We extract his comments on ourself, that our readers may see to what a foam the creature has worked himself. “The wounded bird is known by its fluttering.” The attempts of M. Mattson to falsify and injure us, is vain: where we are known they will be harmless, and where he is known, they will redound to our honor and his disgrace. We feel confident, that the greatest favor he can do us is to speak ill of us. See the following extract:—

“The Manual is well aware that I never made the assertion which has been attributed to me—the editor knows that it is a falsehood of his own coining. He took the proof sheet of the article from which I have quoted, to the engraver, and after reading it to him, was told that he had better omit the paragraph in question, for it was wanting in veracity. He was either too much depraved, however, or was too much under the influence of his master, to act an honest part, and he suffered the falsehood to remain. Sordid and grovelling as he is in his propensities, he nevertheless imposed upon himself the heavy task of omitting several other falsehoods which were pointed out to him by the engraver. It will be seen, therefore, how willing he is to injure an individual who has never harmed him, merely because he has become the supple tool of a childish and vindictive old man. He is far more venomous and plotting than I had any reason to suppose, and he is no doubt entitled to the *two dollars and fifty cents a week*, which he receives for his editorial services. He told the engraver that new and handsome plates would be obtained, and that if he did not consent to pay the difference in the price of engraving, he would be prosecuted; but finding that his “card” did not work, he changed his tune, and endeavored to persuade the engraver to sign a paper for publication intended to injure me. But he neither awed by his threats, nor accomplished any thing by his artifice, and he has the consolation of knowing that he cannot hire other men to [be] as base as himself.”

The falsehoods contained in the above paragraph we consider unworthy of our notice.

☞ The Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel has just commenced its sixth volume. Its publication of late has been irregular, which was caused by the remissness of its patrons in paying, we understand. This paper is an able advocate for the doctrines of Samuel Thomson, and is well deserving a liberal and generous support; we always give it a hearty welcome, and a thorough perusal, and receive instruction from its pages. We are glad to learn that in future its appearance will be regular on the first and fifteenth of each month.

☞ Those who have lost by paying in advance once, will be careful how they pay for “a bird in the bush” a second time; and others who read the following will be careful to secure their “botany” before they pay their money.

[From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.]

THOMSONIAN BOTANY AND MATERIA MEDICA.

We are continually receiving letters from individuals who subscribed and paid for this work in advance. Although we have published heretofore that we had no interest in the work, and that Morris Mattson was the sole proprietor, and received all the cash that was paid, we again inform all who have paid their money, that we have nothing to do with Morris Mattson or his botany. All we can say or affirm to is—That Morris Mattson did publish a prospectus for a work (to be) entitled “Thomsonian Botany and Materia Medica,” which was to appear at a reasonable time, which time was specified, and that certain individuals whose names we have sometime since published, did pay the sums of money attached to their respective names, in proof of which we now hold in our possession the book of original entries, containing the names and amount paid by each individual who sent their money by letter containing transactions relative to the Sentinel. The book of entries was partly kept by and under the management of Morris Mattson.

Mr. Reed, of Paris, Stark Co., Ohio, will please call on Morris Mattson, as we have long since declared that we hold no communion in any shape or form with him, (Morris Mattson,) and therefore could not be expected to call on him to settle other people's business.

THOMSONIAN ALMANAC.—This publication is now ready for delivery, at No. 40 Salem street. The edition printed is small, but the type will be kept standing for a short time, in order to strike off another edition, should the demand require it. It will be necessary for those who intend to purchase, to send in their orders without delay, as above; as the type cannot remain long standing.

It was a saying of Ovid, that a mind conscious of rectitude, laughs at calumny. And that an adversary, unintentionally, may do us some service.

STRABISMUS.—A late number of the Philadelphia North American gives an account of an operation for strabismus or squinting, performed by Dr. J. Duffee, of that city. The editor of the American witnessed the operation, which he says was performed in about five minutes. The patient was a young boy about eight years of age. The bare thought of having sharp instruments put into the eye seems to be almost as much for the patient to bear as the operation itself. During the operation, the patient was several times asked if he experienced much pain, and answered he did not. After it was over, he said his eye felt only as if something was in it. The case was an extreme one, of the right eye, which was very much turned in, and the effect, when the muscle was cut, was instantaneous. After the slight quantity of blood which the operation caused was wiped out, the patient rolled the eye around in the socket with the most perfect ease, proving the complete success of the operation.—Cases of this kind are very interesting, as they are new in the annals of surgery, especially in this country. It is but about two years since this operation was first introduced here from Germany.

CAUSES OF DEATH AMONGST WOMEN.—An English Annual Report upon mortality, says:—"The highest mortality of English women by consumption, may be ascribed partly to the in-door life which they lead, and partly to the compression, preventing the expansion of the chest, by costume. In both ways they are deprived of free draughts of vital air, and the altered blood deposits tuberculous matter with a fatal, unnatural felicity. 31,000 English women died in one year of this incurable* malady.—Will not this impressive fact induce persons of rank and influence to set their countrywomen right in the article of dress, and lead them to abandon a practice which disfigures the body, strangles the chest, produces nervous or other disorders, and has an unquestionable tendency to implant an incurable hectic malady in the frame? Girls have no more need of artificial bones and bandages than boys."

[*By "regulars," the disease consumption is considered as being "incurable," and consequently employ no medicine whereby to attempt a cure. Thomsonians, on the other hand consider the disease in a different light, and taken in its early stages they find it not at all difficult to effect a cure.]

CORNS AND WARTS.—It is said that corns, warts, and other troublesome excrescences may be removed by the application of the bark of the willow tree, burnt to ashes and mixed with strong vinegar.

THOMSONISM.—The Cherokee Nation of Indians have lately adopted the Thomsonian system of medical practice to cure themselves when sick. Upon the ground of this fact, we predict that we shall never hear hereafter that the Cherokees are dying off by hundreds with the small pox or any other disease at any one time.

From the Health Journal.

NATURE.

BY ALFRED B. STREET.

Nature is Man's best teacher. She unfolds
Her treasures to his search, unseals his eye,
Illumes his mind, and purifies his heart.
Her influence breathes in all the sights and sounds
Of her existence: she is Wisdom's self.
Rest yields she to the "weary" of the earth—
Its "heavy laden" she endows with strength.
When sorrow presses on us—when the stings
Of bitter disappointment pierce our soul—
When our eye sickens at the sight of Man,
Our ear turns, loathing, from his jarring voice,
The shadowy forest and the quiet field
Are then our comforters. A medicine
Breathes in the wind that fans our fevered brow;
The blessed sunshine yields a sweet delight;
The birds' low warble thrills within our breast;
The flower is eloquent with peace and joy,
And better thoughts come o'er us. Lighter hearts
And purer feelings cheer our homeward way.
We prize more deep the blessings that are ours,
And rest a higher, holier trust in God. [bathes
And when the the splendid summer moonlight
Blinding the stars, Night's purple sky in rich,
Transparent splendor, brightening all below,
As though, at God's command, Earth's angel-guard
Had dropped his silver mantle from his form
Upon her to protect her helpless sleep,
Nature speaks soothing music, stealing through
Each avenue to the heart, till all is peace.
The stone is rolled from Pleasure's sepulchre,
And forth she treads again in life and light;
Our thoughts are lifted—passions swept away,
And in our soul a holiness is shed—
A mental moonlight—solemn, pure, and sweet;
The feverish throbbings leave our brow, and sleep
Glides o'er our senses like a pleasant shade.

TEARS OF THE HERO OF AUSTERLITZ.—Who forgets the anecdote of Napoleon, and the village bells of Brientz?—He was riding late one day over a battle field, gazing stern and unmoved on the dying and the dead that strewed the ground by thousands about him, when suddenly "those evening bells" struck up a merry peal. The Emperor paused to listen; his heart was softened; memory was busy with the past; he was no longer the conquerer of Austerlitz, but the innocent, happy school boy at Brientz; and dismounting from his horse, he seated himself on the stump of an old tree, and to the astonishment of Rapp, who relates the circumstance, burst into tears. The rock was smitten, and the living waters came gushing from it.

After our form had gone to press and nearly half of the edition worked off, we received a letter from Dr. John Thomson, in relation to M. Mattson's article in the 'True Thomsonian'. We regret that it was not received in season for this number, as it fits like a pair of suspenders. It contains wholesome advice, by which M. M. might be benefited, but we fear it would be like "casting pearls before swine."

For the Manual.

CAUTION!—CAUTION!!

MR. EDITOR.—My ears are daily filled with complaints against individuals who falsely hold themselves out to the public as my agents, authorized to practice my System of Medicine, and who thereby impose, upon the honest and unsuspecting portion of the community, gross ignorance for medical skill, and worthless or deleterious preparations for genuine Thomsonian Medicines. The villany which thus robs the unfortunate of their money, without any valuable consideration, should meet the punishment that often overtakes another and less criminal class of offenders who obtain money by false pretences; and the daring wickedness which thus trifles, from mercenary considerations, with human life, deserves to be treated with the greatest severity known to our laws. To protect the public from the gross imposition, of which so many are made the victims, the Thomsonian Manual will contain a standing list of my agents,—all others who use my name, or profess to have my medicines, are impostors, and I warn my fellow-citizens to beware of them.

I deem it my duty to put the public on their guard, in a particular manner, against the following persons, who are using my name, directly or indirectly, but who either never had any authority from me, or have been dismissed from my confidence for unfaithfulness. Neither myself, nor my system of practice, is to be held responsible for their conduct.

John B. Healey, Augusta, Me.
Benjamin Plummer, Bangor, Me.
Robert Mowe, Eastport, Me.
Horatio N. Palmer, Belfast, Me.
Bayley Pierce, " "
E. G. Gould, " "
S. Sewall, Scarboro', Me.
Lewis Watson, Bangor, "
Mr. Jacobs, " "
Mr. Burke, Calais, "
Joshua Taylor, Norridgewock, Me.
Colby & Smith, Gardiner, Me.
Hilton, Frost & Mason, Portland, Me.,
Mr. Jones, St. Stephens, Me.
Mr. Wilcox, Bennington, Vt.
A. H. Platt, Rahway, N. J.
Hosea Winchester; Wm. Johnson; Eliakim Darling; Hale & Osgood; and Elias Smith, all of Boston, Mass.
William Clark, Lowell, Mass.
Ralph Rugg, West Amesbury, Mass.
Martin Bryant, North Adams, Mass.
Samuel Sprague, Lowell, Mass.
Ames, Ipswich, Mass.

John Cheever, Charlestown, Mass.
Nathan Wright & Son, Cambridgeport, Mass.
Samuel Emmons, Waltham, Mass.
Thomas Lapham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Mr Frisby, Mr Sweet, and P Lapham, New York.
J. J. Gates, Rochester, N. Y.
J. A. Brown, Providence, R. I.
Farewell, Woonsocket, R. I.
Michael L. Priest, Durham, N. H.
Philbrook & Marshall, Nashua, N. H.
H. Jameson, " "
O. N. Chase, " "
P. D. Badger, Newport, N. H.
Aaron Mudge, Portsmouth, N. H.
Mr. Kenedy, " "
John White, " "
Mr. Leighton, " "
B. W. Sperry, New Haven, Conn.
I. J. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.
Rev. Dr. Robinson, Lebanon, Conn.
A. E. Sperry, New London, " "
Geo. W. Rubey, Norwalk, " "
A. S. Pelton, Clinton, " "
G. G. Field, North Madison, " "
Wm. Allen, Jun. New Britain, " "
George Pease, Guilford, " "
Aaron Fenn, Roxbury, " "
G. W. Riley, Goshen, " "
E. Larrabee, Baltimore, Md.

The following individuals, now holding agencies from me, have shown themselves unworthy of my confidence; I therefore revoke their agencies, and hold myself no longer responsible for any of their acts.

MASSACHUSETTS.—James Osgood, who keeps with Daniel Lee Hale, at Blackstone and Endicott Streets, Boston. John A. Andrews, Worcester. John Locke, Boston. Alexander Scamel, Milford. Asa McCollum, Leicester. George Howe, Marlboro'. John Edson, Bridgewater. Phebe H. Hale, Rowley. Sumner Jacobs, Springfield, (Chickopee Falls.) Calvin Sanderson, Springfield. Jonas W. Chapman, Boston.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—George E. Morrill, South Ware. S. W. King, New Ipswich.

MAINE.—Nicholas Smith, Hallowell. O. Wright, Livermore. S. W. Elliot, Industry. Jonathan Marden, Paris. John Shaw, Exeter.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Frederick Plummer, J. W. Comfort, Aaron Comfort, Philadelphia.

VERMONT.—Joseph Wright, Montpelier.

NEW YORK.—Oliver O. Cook, White Creek.

Some of the above named individuals make use of vegetable poisons, and I consider it my duty to put the public upon their guard, respecting them. Those who assume my name to deceive and impose upon the people, are not entitled, either in law or justice, to any recompense for their services. I would remark, also, that the above named Winchester has been travelling in the West, and Johnson, his partner, in the East, for the purpose of vending their spurious medicines. A word to the wise, &c.

I also understand that the above-named Hale has been round the country selling medicine; but he has no authority for so doing from me. I have no travelling agents.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Boston, June 15, 1840.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

Acton, Robert Chaffee

Ashburnham, Amos S Davis

Amesbury, Andrew Howarth

Ashby, F A Kendall

Andover, John Harding

Andover, (Ballard Vale) Aaron P. Holt.

Ashby, Thomas Gibson

Colerain, Oscar J Martin

" Calvin W. Shattuck

Chesterfield, Amos Bisby

" Varnum Nichols

Danvers, Amos Trask, and J R Pattin

" Joseph Shaw Jr

Essex, Eli F Burnham

" E. B. Putnam.

Eastham, Scotter Cobb

Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde

" M. O. Bradford

Gloucester, Samuel Friend

" Gideon Lane

" David E. Saunders

Harvard, J. Hosmer

Leveret, Myron Ashley

Lowell, Daniel Hutchinson

" Perkins H Dow

Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney

Milford, S Sumner

Middleborough, Rev A Briggs

South Andover, Jacob Jenkins

North Reading, Eben'r Eaton

" Thomas Abbot

North Andover, L. T. Presson

New Bedford, Prince Weeks

" " G. Nye

Newburyport, G W Goodwin

" J Blood

Orleans, Vickery Sparrow

Plymouth, Samuel Barnes

Reading, N K J Vinal

Sandwich, Calvin Fisher

Salem, R W Merrill

Springfield, Sirguy Noble

Sturbridge, D Mason

Stoughton, Luther Belcher

Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh

Sudbury, Nahum Thomson

Templeton, Joshua Hosmer

Walpole, Williard Lewis

Waltham, J Shepley

Woburn, Moses H. Pierce

Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester

Camden, Thomas Annis

" William Merriam

East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon

Eastport, John Shackford

Frankfort, George Kimball

Kennebunk, E. Wormwood

Lincolnton Centre, Francis Fletcher

Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster

" M. M. Miles

Machias, Wm. Smith

Norway, Jotham Goodnow

Portland, Daniel Sawyer

" Rev. C. D. Ffrench

Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield

Ripley, Samuel A. Todd

Searsmont, Randlet Ness

Thomaston, Horatio Alden

Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, A. Watkins, and Bethuel Keith

Exeter, S. J. Perkins

Kingston, John Dearborn,

Langdon, Royal Shumway

Meredith, William M. Ladd

Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq

New Ipswich, C. Hosmer

New Hampton, James Jackson

Nashua, Jesse Whitney

Pembroke, Moses Martin

Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn

Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds

Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Bennington, George Boardman Jr

Chelsea, Benj. Grant

Charlemont, David Todd

Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield

Dover, Daniel Leonard

East Randolph, P. Smith

Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson

Halifax, S. Plumb

" Eben'r M. Clark

Green River, Sam'l Cutting

Guilford, Henry Packer

" Philip Martin

Londonderry, J. Arnold

Randolph, Jehiel Smith

Woodstock, Nathan Cushing

" Jacob Holt

Whitingham, W. Goodnow

" Reuben Green

" Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson

New Haven, George Munson

Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson

New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev-
enth St., near 5th Avenue

Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding

Troy, Ira Wood

Westport, J. K. French

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman

Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Wilmington, Wm. T. Gerts

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

New Book.**TO THE THOMSONIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

The public mind has been agitated for two and a half years past, in relation to a revision of my Narrative and New Guide to Health, by Morris Mattson, who has had said work in hand for said purpose.

After the original time for said work to be completed had expired, I added seven months more of time, in order that no reasonable excuse could be offered, on his part, for not having the work complete. I also loaned Mr. Mattson \$1150 in cash, so that there should be no deficiency on my part, so far as money could facilitate the work. On the 1st of June, the time appointed for the completion of the work, the Narrative had not been commenced; the plates were not finished; and what was read of the description of the remedies, was defective. I therefore gave up the idea of Mr. Mattson being competent to put the work in complete order for publication, and concluded he did not design to do the work as agreed upon. I also found that the wants of the people were, that the Book should be written or compiled by a PRACTICAL man, *Mr. Mattson not being such.*

I therefore dissolved all connection with said Mattson, relative to the publication of said work; and shall now go on with it myself, assisted by my son, Dr. John Thomson, of the City of Albany, N. Y., and am in hopes to produce a work during the coming season, that will meet the approbation of the long disappointed community.

No pains will be spared to furnish a work that will meet the wants of the public. The Narrative will be embellished with a new Portrait of the Author, on steel—and the New Guide will contain numerous engravings of the principal plants used in the Thomsonian System of Practice, together with new remedies.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

From the Boston True Thomsonian of Sept. 15. 1840.

"We are sometimes asked whether Dr. M. [Mattson] intends to publish his work, on the supposition that Dr. Thomson's copy right is good for nothing. Dr. M. informs us that he does not know whether the copy right is good, or good for nothing. He does not intend to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson's book, and therefore will not violate his copy right, admitting its validity."

N. B. I am willing Mr. Mattson should publish his work, on the above condition—that is, if he does not copy from my book.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthen-

ing plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, payable in advance. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, free of postage, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, JANUARY 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 4.

From the Schenectada Reflector.

GOOD BYE, OLD BOOTS.

Heaven save your soles! my good old friends,
For soles you once possess'd;
The hour has come when we must part—
So, lie you there to rest.
A sorry looking twain you are,
I wonder how you feel;
O, think upon your maker now,
Since you 're so down t' the heel!

Alas! alas! you 've served me well,
Where 'er I made my tracks;
Through mud, through mire, through thick and thin,
You 've stuck to me like wax.
You pinch'd my corns, 't is true—and then
I scolded, ripp'd and swore;
But not till now, my trusty friends,
Have you e'er ripp'd before.

In public and in private life,
Conspicuously you 've shone;
But now, alas! I must confess,
You 're brilliance all has flown.
Come up here, right boot! how are you?
There—back into your corner;
You 're just as bad, and worser too!
You 're certainly a goner.

I see you both are stiff and cold—
You both in death are gaping;
I know you never will again
New 'quaintances be scraping.
One fond look more before I go—
Yes, there in peace you lie;
May *Bill* have mercy on your soles—
Good bye, old boots—good bye.

EXERCISE OF CHILDREN.

Of all the causes which conspire to render the life of man short and miserable, none have greater influence than the want of proper exercise. Healthy parents, wholesome food, and proper clothing, will avail little, where exercise is neglected. Sufficient exercise will make up for several defects in nursing; but nothing can supply the want of it. It is absolutely necessary to the health, the growth, and the strength of children.

The desire of exercise is coeval with life itself. Were this principle attended to, many diseases might be prevented. But, while indolence and sedentary employments prevent two-thirds of mankind from either taking sufficient exercise themselves, or giving it to their chil-

dren, what have we to expect but diseases and deformity among their offspring? The rickets, so destructive to children, never appeared in Britain until manufactures began to flourish, and people, attracted by the love of gain, left the country to follow sedentary employments in great towns. It is amongst these people that this disease chiefly prevails, and not only deforms, but kills many of their offspring.

The conduct of other young animals shows the propriety of giving exercise to children. Every other animal makes use of its organs of motion as soon as it can, and many of them, even when under no necessity of moving in quest of food, cannot be restrained without force. This is evidently the case with the calf, the lamb, and most other young animals. If these creatures were not permitted to frisk about and take exercise, they would soon die or become diseased. The same inclination appears very early in the human species; but as they are not able to take exercise themselves, it is the business of their parents and nurses to assist them.

Children may be exercised various ways. The best method, while they are light, is to carry them about in the nurse's arms. This gives the nurse an opportunity of talking to the child, and of pointing out everything that may please and delight its fancy. Besides, it is much safer than swinging an infant in a machine, or leaving it to the care of such as are not fit to take care of themselves. Nothing can be more absurd than to set one child to keep another; this conduct has proved fatal to many infants, and has rendered others miserable for life.

When children begin to walk, the safest and best method of leading them about is by the hands. The common way, of swinging them in leading strings fixed to their backs, has several bad consequences. It makes them throw their bodies forward, and press with their whole weight upon the stomach and breast; by this means the breathing is obstructed, the breast flattened, and the bowels compressed; which must hurt the digestion and occasion consumptions of the lungs, and other diseases.

It is a common notion, that if children are set upon their feet too soon, their legs will become crooked. There is reason to believe that the very reverse of this is true. Every member acquires strength in proportion as it is exercised. The limbs of children are weak in-

deed, but their bodies are proportionably light; and had they skill to direct themselves, they would soon be able to support their own weight. Who ever heard of any other animal that became crooked by using its legs too soon? Indeed, if a child is not permitted to make use of its legs till a considerable time after the birth, and be then set upon them with its whole weight at once, there may be some danger; but this proceeds entirely from the child not having been accustomed to use its legs from the beginning.

Mothers of the poorer sort think they are great gainers by making their children lie or sit while they themselves work. In this they greatly mistake. By neglecting to give their children exercise, they are obliged to keep them a long time before they can do anything for themselves, and to spend more on medicine than would have paid for proper care.

To take care of their children, is the most useful business in which even the poor can be employed; but alas! it is not always in their power. Poverty often obliges them to neglect their offspring, in order to procure the necessities of life. When this is the case, it becomes the interest as well as the duty of the public to assist them. Ten thousand times more benefit would accrue to the state by enabling the poor to bring up their own children, than from all the hospitals that ever can be erected for that purpose.

Whoever considers the structure of the human body, will soon be convinced of the necessity of exercise for the health of children. The body is composed of an infinite number of tubes, whose fluids cannot be pushed on without the action and pressure of the muscles. But, if the fluids remain inactive, obstructions must happen, and the humors will of course be vitiated, which cannot fail to occasion diseases. Nature has furnished both the vessels which carry the blood and lymph with numerous valves, in order that the action of every muscle might push forward their contents; but without action, this admirable contrivance can have no effect. This part of the animal economy proves to a demonstration the necessity of exercise for the preservation of health.

Arguments \therefore show the importance of exercise might be drawn from every part of the animal economy; without exercise, the circulation of the blood cannot be properly carried on, nor the different secretions duly performed; without exercise, the fluids cannot be properly prepared, nor the solids rendered strong or firm. The action of the heart, the motion of the lungs, and all the vital functions are greatly assisted by exercise. When exercise is neglected, none of the animal functions can be duly performed; and

when that is the case, the whole constitution must go to wreck.

A good constitution ought certainly to be our first object in the management of children. It lays a foundation for their being useful and happy in life: and whoever neglects it, not only fails in his duty to his offspring, but to society.

One very common error of parents, by which they hurt the constitutions of their children, is by sending them too young to school. This is often done solely to prevent trouble. When the child is at school he needs no keeper. Thus the school-master is made the nurse; and the poor child is fixed to the seat seven or eight hours a day, which time ought to be spent in exercise and diversions. Sitting so long cannot fail to produce the worst effects upon the body; nor is the mind less injured. Early application weakens the faculties, and often fixes in the mind an aversion to books, which continues for life.

But suppose this were the way to make children scholars, it certainly ought not to be done at the expense of their constitutions. Our ancestors, who seldom went to school very young, were not less learned than we. But we imagine the boy's education will be quite marred, unless he be carried to school in his nurse's arms. No wonder if such hot-bed plants seldom become either scholars or men!

Not only the confinement of children in public schools, but their number, often proves hurtful. Children are much injured by being kept in crowds within doors; their breathing not only renders the place unwholesome, but if any one of them happens to be diseased, the rest catch the infection. A single child has been often known to communicate the bloody flux, the hooping cough, the itch, and other diseases, to almost every individual in a numerous school.

But, if fashion must prevail, and infants are to be sent to school, we would recommend it to teachers, as they value the interest of society, not to confine them too long at a time, but allow them to run about and play at such active diversions as may promote their growth and strengthen their constitutions. Were boys, instead of being whipped for stealing an hour to run, ride, swim, or the like, encouraged to employ a proper part of their time in these manly and useful exercises, it would have many excellent effects.

It would be a great service to boys, if, at a proper age, they were taught the military exercise. This would increase their strength, inspire them with courage, and when their country called for their assistance, would enable them to act in her defence, without being obliged to undergo a tedious and troublesome course of instructions, at a time when they are less fit to

learn new motions, gestures, &c. An effeminate education will infallibly spoil the best natural constitution; and if boys are brought up in a more delicate manner than even girls ought to be, they will never be men.

Nor is the common education of girls less hurtful to the constitution, than that of boys. Miss is set down to her frame before she can put on her clothes; and is taught to believe, that to excel at the needle is the only thing that can entitle her to general esteem. It is unnecessary here to insist upon the dangerous consequences of obliging girls to sit too much. They are pretty well known, and are too often felt at a certain time of life. But supposing this critical period to be got over, greater dangers still await them when they come to be mothers. Women who have been early accustomed to a sedentary life, generally run great hazard in child-bed; while those who have been used to romp about, and take sufficient exercise, are seldom in any danger.

One hardly meets with a girl who can at the same time boast of early performances by the needle, and a good constitution. Close and early confinement generally occasions indigestions, head aches, pale complexions, pain of the stomach, loss of appetite, coughs, consumptions of the lungs, and deformity of body. The last of these, indeed, is not to be wondered at, considering the awkward postures in which girls sit at many kinds of needle-work, and the delicate, flexible state of their bodies in the early periods of life.

Would mothers, instead of having their daughters instructed in many trifling accomplishments, employ them in work and housewifery, and allow them sufficient exercise in the open air, they would both make them more healthy mothers, and more useful members of society. I am no enemy to genteel accomplishments, but would have them only considered as secondary, and always disregarded when they impair the health.

Many people imagine it a great advantage for children to be early taught to earn their bread. This opinion is certainly right, provided they were so employed as not to hurt their health or growth; but when these suffer, society, instead of being benefitted, is a real loser by their labor. There are few employments, except sedentary ones, by which children can earn a livelihood; and if they be set to these too soon, it ruins their constitutions. Thus, by gaining a few years from childhood, we generally lose twice as many in the latter period of life, and even render the person less useful while he does live.

In order to be satisfied of the truth of this observation, we need only look into the great manufacturing towns, where we shall find a puny

degenerate race of people, weak and sickly all their lives, seldom exceeding the middle period of life; or if they do, being unfit for business, they become a burden to society. Thus, arts and manufactures, though they may increase the riches of a country, are by no means favorable to the health of its inhabitants. Good policy would therefore require that such people as labor during life, should not be set too early to work. Every person conversant in the breed of horses, or other working animals, knows that if they be set to hard labor too soon, they never will turn out to advantage. This is equally true with respect to the human species. Weakly children should always be put apprentices to trades which require their being mostly out of doors.

There are nevertheless various ways of employing young people, without hurting their health. The easier parts of gardening, husbandry, or any business carried on without doors, are most proper. These are employments which most young people are fond of, and some parts of them may always be adapted to their age, taste, and strength.

Such parents, however, as are under the necessity of employing their children within doors, ought to allow them sufficient time for active diversions without. This would both encourage them to do more work, and prevent their constitutions from being hurt.

Some imagine that exercise within doors is sufficient; but they are greatly mistaken. One hour spent in running, or any other exercise without doors, is worth ten within. When children cannot go abroad, they may indeed be exercised at home. The best method of doing this, is to make them run about in a large room, or dance. This last kind of exercise, if not carried to excess, is of excellent service to young people. It cheers the spirits, promotes perspiration, strengthens the limbs, &c. I know an eminent physician who used to say that he made his children dance, instead of giving them physic. It were well if more people followed this example.

The cold bath may be considered as an aid to exercise. By it the body is braced and strengthened, the circulation and secretions promoted, and, were it conducted with prudence, many diseases, as the rickets, scrophula, &c., might thereby be prevented. The ancients, who took every method to render children hardy and robust, were no strangers to the use of the cold bath; and, if we may credit report, the practice of immersing children daily in cold water must have been very common among our ancestors.

The greatest objection to the use of the cold bath arises from the superstitious prejudices of nurses. These are often so strong, that it is im-

possible to bring them to make a proper use of it. I have known some of them who would not dry a child's skin after bathing it, lest it should destroy the effects of the water. Others will even put clothes dipped in water upon the child, and either put it to bed or suffer it to go about in that condition. Some believe that the whole virtue of the water depends upon its being dedicated to a particular saint; while others place their confidence in a certain number of dips, as three, seven, nine, or the like; and the world could not persuade them, if these do not succeed, to try it a little longer. Thus, by the whims of nurses, children lose the benefit of the cold bath, and the hopes of the physician from that medicine are often frustrated.

We ought not, however, entirely to set aside the cold bath, because some nurses make a wrong use of it. Every child when in health, should at least have its extremities daily washed in cold water. This is a partial use of the cold bath, and is better than none. In winter, this may suffice; but, in the warm season, if a child be relaxed, or seem to have a tendency to the rickets or scrofula, its whole body ought to be frequently immersed in cold water. Care, however, must be taken not to do this when the body is hot, or the stomach full. The child should be dipped only once at a time, should be taken out immediately, and have its skin well rubbed with a dry cloth.—[Dr. Buchan.]

From the Southern Botanic Journal.

CRIM CON.

BY JAMES S. OLCOTT, A. M., T. P.

We are pleased to find that an Independent Grand Jury in our country have presented, as a public nuisance, the medical publication of specifics for the cure of certain diseases, "as deleterious to the morals and manners of the rising generation." We are glad to see the ground broken. It has long been our impression that some blow should be struck against this class of men. It is a fact, individuals have and still continue to impose on the credulity of thousands who have already become, and of those who are in danger of becoming, the victims of obscene disease, under the assurance of "a perfect cure," "no mercury used," "the utmost secrecy." Dr. E****, of New York, under the old Galen's head, is an old offender, and richly deserves the penitentiary or a visit from Judge Lynch; and not less so his imitator, Chs. St. ———. If any man on this earth has become the means of ruining thousands by false hopes and expectations, this is the man. His advertisements have been more than a quarter of a century before the public, holding forth to the young and in-

considerate, the hopes of an easy egress from the abyss of vice and dissipation; bringing the blush of offended modesty on the cheek of thousands, and dragging the victims of disease prematurely to the grave. Let a mark be set upon him. We conceive that another M. D., who has advertised his "Medicated Lozenges" in the form of sugar plums, to be not less culpable. Here medicine is to be given to children laboring under any kind of disease, or rather poison promiscuously scattered before the people, and thus disease and death specifically engendered. The publications of the day are at least one-fifth filled with nostrums professing to cure every disease, even those which are by the profession declared incurable. From \$1 to \$10 is thus filched from the suffering, when the medical faculty are well aware that the delusion is intended and complete. Anthony & Haynes, Augusta, Ga., and a thousand others have become agents, and give credit and currency to the imposition. Let the grand juries of the different counties present all such as nuisances, till the public sentiment and taste shall by their free decision frown such smooth and gentlemanly impostors into a more just, if not more legal, way of obtaining their gain.

The common sense and judgment of society appear to be palsied upon these subjects. Can we for a moment believe that if such men as Dr. Anthony and others knew that these were certain cures, they would vend them from their Apothecary Halls? If one out of ten of these nostrums were sufficient, would not disease become disarmed, and the practising physician remain unemployed and useless? Is it not a direct inference, that these gentlemen are well aware that these nostrums create disease? They know their compounds—the ingredients of which they are composed are by many of them medicamented, and known by them to comprise a poisonous potion. Who is ignorant that the "blue pill," "Brandreth's pills," "Peters' pills," are slow and infallible poisons! Who does not see that the very advertisements with which they are ushered into the world, carry the face, language, and impudence of gasconading empiricism? "Beware of counterfeits, all the genuine pills have Brandreth printed on a fine envelope," &c. These things are too plain not to meet the common sense of the least reflecting. If it were only making a fortunate speculation; if it were only a desire to attain individual notoriety, we could say nothing; but when it is known that it is a part of universal conspiracy, entered upon by the profession to extend their practice and elevate their profession—when we feel aware that it is sporting with health, we lift up our voice against it. It is an alarming fact that disease and mortality have increased in

the exact ratio of a rapidly increasing and far spreading mineral profession. They have embarked themselves securely in their mines, by the rejection of herbs, simples, vegetables, and the adoption of minerals; and in this gasconading indifference were securely laying those trains which were to call to labor, profit, and honor. We hope it will become one of the first objects with the medical convention when it meets at Washington, to enjoin more circumspection and decency on the members of the fraternity in regard to the nostrums, but you may as well hope that the devil will dismiss his imps, his fire and his brimstone. Let then, the indignant people meet with them at Washington, and tell them plainly and fearlessly,—you have no business here. Your work is an impossibility. You have no system. You confess it from the chairs of your professors, and from the dying pillows of your ablest men. You have sported with life long enough. You have blistered, bled, and mercurialized to death. You murdered Washington by taking from him in twenty-four hours, eighty-four ounces of blood, and filling his stomach with eight grains of narcotics; and how dare you meet in a place bearing the name of the great and good, but murdered man, to conspire in the work of general slaughter? Avaunt! ye sorcerers and poisoners, lest his spirit indignantly frown upon you, and shake from his mantle the blood which your accomplices have shed. A medical convention, forsooth! Revise the pharmacœpia, we suppose, (for ye have no system of materia medica,) of the United States! rather to revise that system of medical fraud which is pouring vials of affliction into the bodies of scores and thousands of your fellow beings. Take the advice of a friend, and meet any where except at Washington.

CORNS.

The daily exercise of walking being essential to the preservation of the health and vigor of the system, every thing calculated to prevent its being indulged in to a sufficient extent, must necessarily be a matter of serious import.

There is nothing, perhaps, which impedes the free use of the feet to so great an extent as the presence of corns; for though a few may boast that they experience but little inconvenience from them, to the majority they occasion, by times, a degree of suffering which totally incapacitates them from walking or even standing. We propose, therefore, to call the attention of our readers to the means of preventing, or when present, of remedying this evil.

Small or badly shaped shoes, in the greatest number of cases, produce corns. They may be also occasioned, however, by walking much

in shoes of too large dimensions and formed from materials of a hard and unyielding nature. The feet being subjected, in the one case, to long continued pressure, and, in the other, to repeated friction, the skin, particularly at those points where it is in almost immediate contact with the bone, becomes hard and thickened. If the pressure or friction be continued, both the density and thickness of the skin increase, and a corn is formed, which being forced down by the shoe, becomes imbedded into the parts upon which it is seated, and by its pressure upon the delicate skin beneath, causes this to become inflamed and exquisitely sensible.

Corns are not always confined to the feet; various other parts of the body may be affected with them, if subjected to constant pressure or friction. Thus, they are very commonly produced on the more projecting portions of the hands of ploughmen, gardeners, reapers, blacksmiths, and various other mechanics, from the pressure and friction to which these parts are subjected in handling their respective tools.

From the preceding remarks, the means of preventing the formation of corns will suggest itself to every one. It is to remove from the feet all unnecessary pressure, and to carefully guard them from repeated friction. To this end, the first thing to be attended to is the shoe. This should be made sufficiently large and of a shape exactly correspondent to that of the foot. No one can promise himself an exemption from corns, unless the shoe be of sufficient dimensions to permit of all the motions of the feet and toes being performed without restraint. It is important, also, that it be formed of a suitable material, and rise as high in the instep as it can be worn, in order that all pressure or friction may be taken off the toes. Shoes made of soft calf-skin or of buck-skin are the best. Previously to being worn, to render them flexible and more capable of adapting themselves to the form of the foot, the upper leather should be well oiled, until perfectly soft and flexible; afterwards the oil may be discontinued if thought proper.

"Great care is taken in the army," says a recent English writer, "to see that the men are provided with proper shoes, with good thick soles, roomy about the toes, and that in every other respect they fit well; and it is astonishing to find among so large a body of men so few afflicted with corns. There is, however, another thing in favor of the soldier against corns, namely, he is taught to walk; and if any perceptible awkwardness or partial deformity of the foot originally exist, this is corrected by the drill sergeant, who teaches him to plant his feet fairly and uniformly on the ground, and to turn his toes in such a direction that each part of the foot may sustain a proportionate weight, and all

ts articulations have their full and unshackled play."

An all important means, therefore, of preventing a disposition to corns, is to correct any awkwardness in the gait; in other words, for the individual to learn how to manage his feet in walking so as to subject them, on their upper surface, to the least possible pressure or friction. The time and patience necessary for this, will be amply repaid by the advantages of a fine, easy, and graceful gait.

It is certainly true that some individuals are more liable to be effected with corns than others. A few who always wear tight shoes, and take but little care of their feet or manner of walking, are never incommoded with them: others, on the contrary, can scarcely put on a pair of new shoes, or walk more than usual, without having them produced. It is a curious circumstance, also, that persons have been tormented with corns for years, and then become, all at once, entirely rid of them, though they continue to wear the same kind of shoes and walk to the same extent as formerly.

Another important measure for the prevention of corns is frequently bathing the feet. Clean feet, clean stockings, and a pair of easy shoes, are the most effectual preventives of injury to the feet, and as great a luxury as it is possible, where personal comfort is duly appreciated, for any one to enjoy.—[Journal of Health.

TRY, TRY AGAIN.

'Tis a lesson you should heed,

Try, try again;

If at first you don't succeed,

Try, try again.

Then your courage should appear,

For, if you will persevere,

You will conquer, never fear;

Try, try again.

Once, or twice, though you should fail,

Try, try again;

If you would, at last, prevail,

Try, try again;

If we strive, 'tis no disgrace,

Though we may not win the race;

What should you do in the case?

Try, try again.

If you find your task is hard,

Try, try again;

Time will bring you your reward,

Try, try again;

All that other folks can do,

Why, with patience, should not you?

Only keep this rule in view,

TRY, TRY AGAIN.

Truth ought to be explained in language that is plain and unambiguous.

PRODUCTS OF THE EARTH.

The earth is endowed with the capability of producing an ample supply of food, provided we expend muscular and nervous energy in its cultivation; while, in most climates, it refuses to produce, if we withhold this labor and allow it to lie waste: further, the Creator has presented us with timber, metal, wool, and countless materials, which, by means of muscular power, may be converted into dwelling-places, clothing, and all the luxuries of life. The fertility of the earth, and the demands of the body for food and clothing, are so benevolently adapted to each other, that, with rational restraint on population, a few hours' labor each day from every individual capable of working, would suffice to furnish all with every commodity that could really add to enjoyment. "It has been computed," says Dr. Franklin, "by some political arithmetician, that, if every man and woman would work for four hours each day on something useful, that labor would be sufficient to procure all the necessities and comforts of life; want and misery would be banished out of the world; and the rest of the twenty-four hours might be leisure and pleasure."

In the tropical regions of the globe, where a high atmospheric temperature diminishes the quantum of muscular energy, the fertility and productiveness of the soil are increased in a like proportion, so that less labor suffices. Less labor, also, is required to provide habitations and raiment. In the colder latitudes, muscular energy is greatly increased, and there, much higher demands are made upon it: the earth is more sterile, and the piercing frosts render necessary a thicker covering for the body.

Farther, the food afforded by the soil in each climate, appears to be adapted to the maintenance of the organic constitution of the people in health, and to the supply of the muscular energy necessary for the particular wants of the situation. In the Arctic Regions, no farinaceous food ripens; but on the question being put to Dr. Richardson, how he, accustomed to the bread and vegetables of the temperate regions, was able to endure the pure animal diet, which formed his only support on his expedition to the shores of the Polar Sea along with Captain Franklin, he replied, that the effect of the extreme dry cold to which he and his companions were constantly exposed—living, as they did, in the open air—was to produce a desire for the most stimulating food they could obtain; that bread, in such a climate, was not only not desired, but comparatively impotent, as an article of diet; that pure animal food, and the fatter the better, was the only sustenance that maintained the tone of the corporeal system; but that

when it was abundant (and the quantity required was much greater than in milder latitudes) a delightful vigor and buoyancy of mind and body were enjoyed, that rendered life highly agreeable. Now, in beautiful harmony with these wants of the human frame, these regions abound during summer in countless herds of deer, rabbits, partridges, ducks, and, in short, every sort of game, and also in fish; and the flesh of these, dried, constitutes delicious food in winter, when the earth is wrapped in one wide mantle of snow.

Among the Greenlanders and other Esquimaux tribes, nothing is so much relished as the fat of the whale, the seal, or the walrus: a tallow candle and a draught of train-oil are regarded as dainties; while a piece of bread is spit out with strong indications of disgust.

In Scotland, the climate is moist and moderately cold; the greater part of the surface is mountainous, and well adapted for rearing sheep and cattle; while a certain portion consists of fertile plains, fitted for raising farinaceous food. If the same law holds in this country, the diet of the people should consist of animal and farinaceous food, the former predominating. And on such food, accordingly, the Scotsman thrives best. As we proceed to warmer latitudes, to France for instance, we find the soil and temperature less congenial to sheep and cattle, but more favorable to corn and wine; and the Frenchman flourishes in health on less of animal food, than would be requisite to preserve the Scottish highlander, in the recesses of his mountains, in a strong and alert condition. From one of a series of interesting letters on the agriculture of France, it appears that the consumption of beef in that country relative to the population, is only one-sixth of what it is in England. The plains of Hindustan are too hot for the extensive rearing of the sheep and the ox, but produce rice and vegetable spices in prodigious abundance; and the native is healthy, vigorous, and active, when supplied with rice and curry, and becomes sick when obliged to live chiefly on animal diet. He is supplied with less muscular energy by this species of food; but his soil and climate require far less laborious exertion to maintain him in comfort, than those of Britain, Germany, or Russia.—[Combe's Constitution of Man.

"BETTER LAUGH THAN CRY."—So say we. There's no use in rubbing one's eyes and blubbering over all "the ills that flesh is heir to." Red eyes, caused by any thing but brandy, or its kindred, are scandalous looking affairs. The best way is to "stand up to the rack," and take the good things and the evil as they come along, without repining—always cheering yourself

with that philosophical ejaculation, "better luck next time!"

Is dame Fortune as shy as a weasel? Tell her to go to thunder, and laugh in her face. The happiest fellow we ever saw, slept upon a plank, and had n't a shilling in his pocket, nor a coat to his back.

Do you find "disappointment lurking in many a prize?" Then throw it away and laugh at your own folly for so long pursuing it.

Does fame elude your grasp? Then laugh at the fools that are so often her favorites. She's of no consequence any how, and never buttered a piece of bread or furnished a man with a clean dicky.

Is your heart broken by

"Some maiden fair,
Of bright blue eyes and auburn hair?"

Then thank your stars that you escaped with your neck, and make the welkin ring with a hearty laugh. It lightens the weight on one's heart amazingly.

Take our advice on all circumstances to "laugh dull care away!" Do n't be in a hurry to get out of the world—its a very good world, considering the creatures who inhabit it, and is just about as full of fun as it well can be. You never saw a man cut his throat, with a broad grin on his face; it is a grand preventive of suicide. There's philosophy, and religion too, in laughing—its shows a clear conscience, and sincere gratitude for the good things of life, and elevates us above the brute creation. So here goes for fun, and we'll put in for our share while the ball is rolling.

"OLD JACOBS."

"Thanks to my lucky stars!" exclaimed old Jacobs, standing near a lofty mountain, and looking with infinite complacency at the property which he had purchased at the Tontine Coffee-House. "Thanks to my lucky stars! I am worth one hundred thousand dollars!"

"I am worth at least one hundred thousand dollars!" said he, "fairly scraped together! I think I will buy a ship for Jack; Tom shall be a counsellor; Patty, yes, Patty shall marry the English Ambassador.

"I am worth one hundred thousand dollars! I was just sixty-five last Christmas. I am yet hale and strong. Go to: I'll withdraw from the bustle of the world, and the busy hum of the Exchange. I'll retire and enjoy myself.

"Good!" continued old Jacobs, manfully striding up the mountain's side. "Good! I am worth at least one hundred thousand dollars! Aye, here I'll build me a warm mansion—there I'll plant my orchard—on this side I'll have my summer-house—round yonder angle, we'll run

up the stable—and here I'll dig the ice-house. What! must I have all these unsightly wooden houses blocking my view? No matter, I can purchase them of my brother merchant, Mr. Hicks; and then, every one of them shall come down."

"Consider, sir, for a moment," observed old Jacobs' land agent, "consider. What will those poor people do, if you pull down their huts?"

"Do? let them do as they can: 't is no concern of mine. And, hark ye, Mr. Agent; do you see that mill, which makes such a noisy clack? do you see, I say, how its wheel obstructs the stream which waters my grounds? Come, no words! that shall come down too."

So, sagely determined old Jacobs; and went home pleased with the project of his own brain. He supped heartily—took his hot punch—cracked his jokes—smoked four cigars and went to bed.

A fit of apoplexy came on suddenly at night, and—Old Jacobs never more awoke.

The "unsightly wooden houses," therefore, still stand; and their inhabitants continue their avocations. But old Jacobs, who was worth "at least one hundred thousand dollars," moulders in the city church-yard; and his name is forgotten upon the Exchange.

NEWSPAPERS.—A child beginning to read becomes delighted with a newspaper, because he reads of names and things which are very familiar, and he will make progress accordingly. A newspaper in one year says Mr. Weeks, is worth a quarter's schooling to a child, and every father must consider that substantial information is connected with this advancement.—The mother of a family being one of its heads, and having a more immediate charge of children ought to be intelligent of mind, pure in language, and always cheerful and circumspect. By the instruction of her children, she should herself be instructed.

A mind occupied, becomes fortified against the ills of life, and is braced for any emergency. Children amused by reading and study, are of course considerate and more easily governed.

How many thoughtless young men have spent their evenings in a tavern or grog shop, which ought to have been devoted to reading. How many parents who never spent twenty dollars for books for their children, would gladly have given thousands to reclaim a son or daughter, who had ignorantly and thoughtlessly fallen into temptation.

Weekly newspapers can be had at from one to three dollars per year, being from two to five cents per week. Each paper cost the printer before it is printed, about one cent. He, there-

fore, obtains from one to four cents for his editorial duties, and for printing, distributing, composition &c.—This is extremely low. It is the price paid for advertisements which must keep newspapers alive.

Thus the readers of newspapers get the *cheapest* of all possible reading.

COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF A MARRIED AND SINGLE LIFE.—Besides, is the money all?—What a life to lead! No one to talk to without going from home, or without getting some one to come to you! no friend to sit and talk to. No pleasant evenings to pass! Nobody to share with you your sorrows or your pleasures: no soul having a common interest with you: all around you taking care of themselves, and no care of you: no one to cheer you in moments of depression: to say all in a word, no one to love you, and no prospect of ever seeing any such one to the end of your days. For as to parents and brethren, if you have them, they have other and very different ties; and however laudable your feelings as a son and a brother, those feelings are of a different character. Then as to gratifications, from which you hardly abstain altogether, are they generally of little expense? and are they attended with no trouble, no vexation, no disappointment, no jealousy even, and never followed by shame or remorse?

THE PURITY OF WOMAN.—The widows of the Hindoos burn themselves in the pile that consumes their husbands; and the Hindoo widowers do not dispose of themselves in this sort of way. The widows devote their bodies to complete destruction, lest, even after the death of their husbands, they should be tempted to connect themselves with other men; and though this is carrying delicacy far indeed, it reads to Christian wives a lesson not unworthy of attention; for, though it is not desirable that their bodies should be turned into handfals of ashes, even that transmutation were preferable to that infidelity which fixes the brand of shame on the cheeks of their parents, their children, and on those of all who ever called them friends.

DESCRIPTION OF A GOOD WIFE.—She had n't no *ear for music*, Sam, but she had a capital *eye for dirt*, and for poor folks, that's much better. No one never seed as much dirt in my house as a fly cold n't brush off with his wings. Boston gals may boast of their spinnets, and their *gytars*, and their *eyetalian* airs, and their *ears for music*, but give me the gal, I say, that *has an eye for dirt*, for she's the gal for my money.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, JANUARY 1, 1841.

AN APPEAL TO THOMSONIANS.

We would suggest to the Thomsonian public the necessity of forming a society and raising a fund for the purpose of administering Thomsonian Medicines to the indigent sick.

In a place containing a large number of inhabitants, the circumstances of many, very many, of them are such that they have no time, or little inclination, to examine into the merits of our system. They have little time for reading and reflection; and but very few of them ever hear of the Thomsonian practice of medicine, except in terms of denunciation. When slightly indisposed they treat themselves as best they know how; and for want of knowledge of the healing art, on a continuance of ill health, they apply to a physician of the regular order: the medicines which are administered to them only tend to reduce the patient and re-enforce the malady. The physician thus runs up a bill, and the patient finds his or her scanty means so dwindled away, that, with health doubly impaired, they are obliged to struggle for the very necessities of life, when nature requires rest and repose. They now dwell upon the inefficiency of the physician's prescriptions, and contemplate with sadness the condition in which they are left.—Purse empty, constitution broken, and a cold heartless world around them.—Perhaps some friend may recommend a trial of the Thomsonian medicines, but, with their scanty means, they feel they cannot afford the expense; they may indeed have entirely exhausted their own resources, and are left to the charities of a few friends for assistance, who are but poorly able to extend help to them.

Again, there are those who make a partial trial of the Thomsonian remedies, but being in destitute circumstances, cannot give it that fair trial which is necessary to a recovery of health; and, by their

means becoming expended, are obliged to delay a further trial until a more convenient time.

These are facts which have come under our own observation, and the longer we live, and the more we know of the miseries of mankind, the more are we surprised that those who have been long engaged in the cause, seen much of the distress of their fellow creatures, and who must have observed the need of something being done to ameliorate the condition of the needy, have not made exertions to do something for them. It is a duty which those who have been benefitted by the hot medicines owe to the cause of humanity to propagate the doctrines of that system of medicine in which they found relief, and to lend their assistance, be it ever so little, to enable their less fortunate brother or sister to derive benefit from the same source.

We would at this time propose that a society be formed, whose object shall be to collect funds from Thomsonians for the purpose of defraying the expenses incurred by the destitute sick, in obtaining relief through the Thomsonian medicines. We hope some of our cotemporaries will furnish us with their views on the subject, and exert themselves in this cause.

LOBELIA NOT A POISON.

In looking over a back number of the Health Journal, (June 24, 1840,) we notice some editorial remarks relative to the properties of Lobelia as an emetic. The Journal considers lobelia a poison, but says, "when an emetic is necessary we should a thousand times rather take it than a mineral poison." We are happy to hear the Editress of the Journal give this preference, and believe if she should ever find it necessary to take lobelia emetics a few times, and would closely watch its effects upon the stomach and system generally, she would discard the idea altogether of its being a poison. The same writer says, "we always supposed that an article which was rejected by the system with such deathly sickness as we have witnessed where lobelia had been taken, must be poisonous." This goes but very little way, with us, towards proving lobelia to be a poison; and we think the writer of it will discover its lack of force, when taking into consideration the fact that the stomach can be excited to the same action, attended by similar deathly sickness, without taking any thing into it: for instance, *sea-sickness* produces as *deathly* a feeling as the human system is susceptible of; and certainly there can be no *poisonous* agency in that! May not lobelia, therefore, excite vomiting, and yet be free from any poison-

ous properties? Analogy and experience answer in the affirmative.

We will now give a few of the many reasons that can be urged in support of lobelia as emetics, and in refutation of the oft-repeated assertion of its being poison.

First. In testing *powerful poisons* by the human system, there has been no difficulty in ascertaining a *given quantity* that would produce death. It is true, peculiar habits and constitutions may cause some little variation in this particular, but not sufficient to interrupt the general rule. Now, if lobelia be a poison, it is most assuredly a *powerful poison*, for no one article in the whole range of medicine has a greater effect on the human system: then why any difficulty in determining upon a certain quantity that will destroy the principle of life? This is a difficulty which all the *learned doctors* in the civilized world cannot get over, for the simple reason that lobelia is administered daily and hourly in all quantities from one grain to *one hundred grains*; and we have heard it stated by a man under oath, that he had given *HALF A POUND* of lobelia to a patient in the space of *ten hours*! not only without producing any dangerous symptoms, but effecting by it a speedy cure. It is very evident, then, from these facts, that if lobelia possesses poisonous properties, they are so hidden that Thomsonians have not been able, during forty years' experience, to discover them. Should the regulars ever take it into their heads to make use of it, we cannot say but their superior *science* and *skill* may convert it into a poison. The only reason, probably, why they have not made free use of it, is because they *know*, if they know any thing about it, that it is not a poison; and they disdain using an article which is harmless in the hands of the people.

Second. Lobelia has less action on the healthy than the diseased system; whereas the reverse is true of poisons, as all very well know. When lobelia is taken into a healthy stomach, it causes little or no sickness. This is a fact we know from experience, having taken more than triple the quantity generally given, without its producing any emetic effect whatever. We had been through four or five successive courses of medicine within ten or twelve days,—laboring at the time under a *slow bilious fever*,—until our health was restored to its usual standard; but wishing to feel fully satisfied that no remains of the disease were lurking about us, and partly for the purpose of testing still further the properties of the medicine, we went through the preliminaries of the course and took of the lobelia as usual, until we had taken *ten tea-spoonsful*, without feeling in the least sick.

We lay in bed and had our *sweat* out, and then got up and partook of supper with a keen appetite.

We have often heard the remark that it did not appear at all plausible that lobelia, proving itself so powerful an emetic as it does in most cases, would not excite a healthy stomach to vomiting. Now there is nothing unreasonable in this; for lobelia is not repugnant in itself to the human system—is not opposed to the natural functions of the stomach. Whenever the stomach becomes diseased, and any foreign or morbid matter collects in it, nature makes an effort to rid herself of the burden: lobelia merely lends its aid in this work, by strengthening the vital action, and when the stomach is thoroughly cleansed there is nothing more for the lobelia to do: hence, it will not cause vomiting when the stomach is perfectly healthy, but is merely diffused through the system like any other pure stimulant—even as food itself; for that it *does* harmonize with food, will appear from position.

Third. Lobelia, even when it acts powerfully as an emetic, seldom brings up food; except in cases where something has been eaten which the digestive powers cannot dispose of. Will a *poison* thus act? No! This one peculiarity of lobelia should satisfy every reasonable mind of its great superiority over every known substance for emetic purposes. Emetics prescribed by the mineral doctors remove the food indiscriminately with other matter; thus totally deranging the digestive organs, leaving the stomach entirely empty, and consequently in a weak and collapsed condition; and it will require many hours, if not days, to regain its natural tone and action. Lobelia can be given to a patient immediately after eating, and will assist in cleansing the stomach of all morbid matter much more thoroughly than can be done by any other agent, without removing the food, or even disturbing the digestive process. That digestion goes regularly on, during a course of Thomsonian medicine, is very evident from the fact that in a great majority of cases the patient has no antipathy to food, and can take his bowl of milk-porridge, between his vomitings, with a good relish. We have known children to ask, and even cry, for *bread and butter*, before they were half through the course. The consequence is, as the food is suffered to remain on the stomach and digestion to proceed, that as soon as the immediate effects of the medicine subside, the patient has his wonted strength and vigor, his appetite is good, his spirits elastic; and all close observers may at once remark the material difference in the effects produced by *MEDICINES* and *poisons*. I. H. A.

MRS. KINNEY'S TRIAL.

'This case, which caused so much excitement in this city during the whole of last week, was given to the jury at ten o'clock Friday night, who returned in *three minutes* with a verdict of NOT GUILTY.

To prosecute a woman for poisoning her husband, when the grounds for suspicion were so slight as in this case, is the height of injustice and absurdity. It appears from the evidence that two or three doctors, who deal altogether in *poisons*, had been prescribing for Mr. Kinney immediately before his death, and yet the afflicted widow is thrown into jail, there incarcerated for three or four months, and then dragged before a court of justice to answer for his death!

Let us examine a little into the particulars of this affair and see if it does not appear quite as evident that this man was poisoned by the doctors, as by the wife? if indeed he were poisoned at all! In the first place we find the deceased applied to Dr. Bachelder, who at the time kept Dr. Harrington's office in Endicott st., on Tuesday before his death on Sunday. Dr. B. prescribed for a certain disease which he swears the prisoner had. He gave him five or six *cathartic pills* to be taken that night; *did not know what they were made of*,—Dr. Harrington, who was in the country at that time, was the manufacturer. Also gave him a box of *blue pills*, (mercury,) one of which was to be taken twice a day. The patient followed the directions until Saturday evening—growing worse all the time—when Dr. Bachelder was called in, and prescribed for what he then supposed to be a severe case of Cholera Morbus: viz., a *bowel pill* of his own manufacture, a *Dover powder*, (opium,) and *some drops of laudanum*—how many drops is not stated.

The patient still continued to grow worse until between twelve and one o'clock, when he requested Mr. Goodwin to go for Dr. Storer, who, upon arriving, immediately prescribed *forty drops of laudanum* to be taken into the stomach, and an injection containing *sixty drops of laudanum*, and then went home.—Was called again between five and six in the morning—found the patient a great deal worse—administered a pill of *calomel* and *opium*—called Dr. Bigelow in consultation—pronounced it a case of Malignant Cholera, and requested an examination in reference to that opinion, after his death which took place about ten o'clock.

During the examination, the doctors discovered in the stomach symptoms of *poison*. What a mystery was here! Symptoms of poison in the stomach of a subject who had taken nothing but *poison*

for four days! It does not appear by the evidence that a single particle of *medicine* was prescribed by the doctors! Nothing but Poison! poison!! poison!!! And yet, because the wife dared to give a bowl of simple *sage tea*, without consulting them, they would swear away her life as the murderer of her husband! But, thanks to an intelligent jury, such a disgrace has not stained the annals of our Court! A spirit of enquiry is now abroad, which places the evidence of doctors on a parallel with that of other men. The time has been, when their evidence has overruled all other! But people have learned that doctors, as well as other men, can *make mistakes*, and, oftentimes, *fatal ones*!

That a man should die after taking all the above named *poisons*, does not appear at all strange. The only mystery is, the doctors inform us that they found *arsenic* in his stomach; and deny having administered any in this case, but own that it is sometimes prescribed by them! Now, arsenic might have been in the bottle before the contents of the stomach was put into it, as it was brought by Mr. Goodwin, a painter, from his own place, and as he states at one time that he had paint stufs in his shop which contained arsenic, and at another time that he had not. There might have been arsenic in the prescriptions of Dr. Bachelder, as it is given sometimes for the disease which he prescribed for, and as Dr. Harrington swears that Dr. B. had told him that he "made use of *arsenic* in his practice—used *powerful medicines*, which other doctors did not know how to use." Again, arsenic might have been given through mistake, in place of some one of the other *poisons* prescribed by one or other of the attending physicians.

Dr. Bachelder says, the cathartic pills he gave were made by Dr. Harrington, and he does not know *what they were composed of*: thus leaving it to be inferred that *they* might have caused the death. Dr. H., as an offset to this, says his pills were very harmless, but that Dr. B. uses arsenic in his practice: thus throwing the suspicions back again on him. Dr. B. says the man had the venereal—the other doctors say he had not. Dr. B. treated him Saturday evening for Cholera Morbus—Drs. Storer and Bigelow pronounced it Malignant Cholera! and treated it as such down to the death. Dr. Bigelow attempts to throw suspicion on Dr. Bachelder. This is accounted for by the fact, that, although Dr. Bachelder is a regularly educated and *diplomitized* physician, he is not a member of the Mass. Med. Society—is not pledged to support that cursed monopoly.

Gentlemen doctors! were all your patients, who die suddenly, examined as critically as this one, how many widows, think ye, would have to answer for the death of their husbands? I. H. A.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A 'THOMSONIAN.—No. I.

MR. EDITOR:—If you think the following will interest or instruct your readers, I will endeavor to furnish a column or two for each number of your journal, until I have completed the series I have now in contemplation. It is my intention to give your readers a plain and *unvarnished* account of my own experience in the Thomsonian ranks, from the time of my conversion up to the present day ; including reports of such cases as have come under my own observation, together with those which have been related to me by eye witnesses, i. e., as far and as correctly as can be done from memory.

Be it understood, I am no physician, any farther than to my own family, but have been frequently called upon by my immediate friends and acquaintances to make use of the same means in relieving them from disease, as I employed in my own family.

My sole object, Mr. Editor, in attempting this series of communications, is to cast my mite into the scales of Truth and Justice, and endeavor to convince some of my fellow men that there is no manner of necessity for employing physicians, or making use of other than vegetable medicines.

Previous to the year 1834, I had often heard of *steam doctors*, but always to their disadvantage. Newspaper accounts and verbal relations by gossips had reached my ears at various times, setting forth in startling terms the murderous careers of these *quacks* ; and possessing no proof to the contrary, I naturally imbibed the idea that they were a class of ignoramuses and impostors. Sometime during the year above named, my business brought me in contact with an old acquaintance, who, during our separation, had passed through the ordeal of Thomsonism and came out purified. He was then a warm advocate of the cause, and expressed a wish that I would read some books on the subject, which he offered me for that purpose ; feeling confident, he said, that by so doing, my opinion would undergo a change in its favor. I complied ; more out of respect to my friend, however, than from any expectation of deriving benefit therefrom. I gave the books a thorough and candid perusal—all was plain and consistent ; the *theory* appeared reasonable—I determined upon trying the *practice* when next I required medicine, which at that time was very often, as my constitution was slender and occupation sedentary.

I immediately purchased the "New Guide to Health," and upon perusing its pages a new light burst upon my bewildered path, and so simple and clear did everything there appear, that, like the boy with his puzzle after the *mystery* has been solved to him, I wondered that *I did not know it before*.

I was fully satisfied, upon examination, that Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON had taken the proper course to found a system of medical practice which would prove beneficial to the human race. He at first became aware that there was something wrong in the fashionable practice of the day, as he remarked that whenever a doctor was called to any one of his family when sick, they almost invariably became worse. Here was one fact. He next observed that when they were laboring under precisely the same diseases, and the same symptoms were manifest, and the doctor was not sent for *at all*, that a healthy action took place much sooner than when he was. Here was another fact. From repeated observations of this sort he concluded that the doctor only prolonged the sickness, and determined to employ him no longer. He then reasoned thus : if a person will recover his health without taking any medicine, there must be a resisting principle to disease in our natures ; and medicines, in order to have a beneficial effect, must harmonize with this principle ; and in this event, health will be restored in a shorter space of time than where nature is left to do the work unaided.

The next thing needful, was medicines that *would* harmonize with this principle. Dr. Thomson's peculiar genius soon suggested to him the proper method whereby to discover such remedies, without the possibility of error. He watched, with an eagle eye, the struggles of nature to expel disease from the human system—marked every symptom, every change, until he became satisfied that a deficiency in vital action—or *vital heat*—was the cause of all disease. He plainly perceived that when a man was in health, there was a continual exhalation from the surface of the body : when sick, that it in a great measure or wholly stopped. He therefore very sagely concluded that whatever medicine was administered, it should be such as would promote perspiration, or determine to the surface. His knowledge of the properties of plants, readily supplied this desideratum, and he found that by making use of these sudorific articles, the patient had the same symptoms, underwent the same changes, and recovered his health in the same manner as where nature was left to work the cure alone—with this difference only, *the cure was more speedy*.

In my opinion, a mind that is at all open to the conviction of truth, will decide as I did when these arguments were forced home upon me, that the *Thomsonian practice is worthy of a trial*.

A number of times during the years '34 and '35, I had occasion to make use of some of the Thomsonian medicines, such as cayenne, composition and spiced bitters, and always derived speedy benefit from them. I had been for years in the habit of taking frequent potions of *physic*,—in fact, it seemed impossible for me to do without it; and yet, I was well aware that it merely gave me temporary relief, and that each dose only paved the way for another. After taking the above named Thomsonian medicines a short time, I had no farther need of *physic*; have not swallowed a particle of cathartic medicine from that day to this, *and never shall again, so long as I have my senses*. I am fully persuaded, from experience, that the practice of making free use of *physic*, is the most fruitful source of suffering to mankind. It is commenced with the infant whose age is numbered by days, and the difficulty "grows with its growth, and strengthens with its strength," until the child is turned—to use a homely phrase—*inside out*: i. e., nearly all the juices of the system are diverted from their proper courses; the stomach becomes cold, digestion weakened; the bowels irritable and cankerous, and flatulent (windy) in the extreme; all the natural heat is thrown to the surface; thus giving to the child a healthy and robust appearance, when in reality it is constitutionally disordered—a mere *bag of wind and water*—liable to "ill turns" every few days, and a ready subject for any prevailing disease to which it may be exposed.

It is true, parents have the authority of their "family physician" for thus feeding their children on *physic*. "Doctor, what shall I give my babe?" "O, a little *castor oil*!" Thus the tender infant is subjected to this drastic purge, which is sufficient to prostrate in a few hours the most robust man! What if the parent *does* know that this oil quite frequently throws infants into fits?—The doctor says it must be taken, and what right has the parent over that child which has been given up to the *interest* of the physician? Were doctors paid for keeping children well, instead of sick, rest assured, they would never prescribe "castor oil."

This communication, Mr. Editor, is intended as a sort of introduction to what will follow. In reporting the cases, I shall not confine myself to them alone, but ask the liberty of making such remarks as may occur to my mind in support of

the system, as I proceed. If I become too prolix, some of your readers must "rap me over the knuckles." I shall endeavor to state facts, without much regard to style. I am no literary character, as this production will testify.

For the Manual.

THOMSONISM FOR BRUISES.

MR. EDITOR:—Having frequently heard people who were much in favor of the Thomsonian practice, express their opinion that blood-letting was necessary in case of a fall or bruise, I will give you a case which may forever set such people to rest on that point, if they will just use reason. The case to which I refer, occurred in my own family circle. My father, 86, and my mother, 76 years of age, were upset in a wagon, which fell on them, bruising them very bad; my father got up and went to a house near by; and such was the severity of the hurt he had received, that it deprived him of his senses. My mother was found under the wagon, was taken into the house, and a doctor was sent for, but luckily could not be obtained. I say luckily, for had he came, no doubt but he would have bled them both, which would but have increased the injury they had already received. I was next sent for. I found them, particularly the old gentleman, very much bruised and swollen. I commenced bathing him with the third preparation, and administered the same to the stomach and bowels. In the space of eight hours I had given four table-spoonsful of this article, and in six days he had taken by draught and injections, ten table-spoonsful of the same, and one pint of drops. The sixth day he was removed, and rode six miles in a wagon without resting.

My mother was treated in a similar manner, and also recovered speedily.

I give this case to show the folly of drawing blood in cases of bruises, or any other accidents, and to let people know that the Thomsonian medicines can perform wonders in restoring the sick, the maimed, and the broken down.

Yours, &c.,

THOMAS GIBSON.

Ashby, Mass., Dec, 17. 1840.

TOOTH POWDER.—Lobelia and Golden Seal, equal parts, finely pulverised, used morning and night, with a piece of linnen cloth to rub the teeth and gums, and pearlash-water to rinse the mouth, will cleanse the teeth and gums and sweeten the breath.

☞ Subscribers are requested to bear in mind that we cannot break our files of volumes to supply them with missing numbers. We are careful to have their papers regularly and safely mailed, and if they lose them we cannot be accountable for it.

For the Manual.

CAUTION!—CAUTION!!

MR. EDITOR.—My ears are daily filled with complaints against individuals who falsely hold themselves out to the public as my agents, authorized to practice my System of Medicine, and who thereby impose, upon the honest and unsuspecting portion of the community, gross ignorance for medical skill, and worthless or deleterious preparations for genuine Thomsonian Medicines. The villany which thus robs the unfortunate of their money, without any valuable consideration, should meet the punishment that often overtakes another and less criminal class of offenders who obtain money by false pretences; and the daring wickedness which thus trifles, from mercenary considerations, with human life, deserves to be treated with the greatest severity known to our laws. To protect the public from the gross imposition, of which so many are made the victims, the Thomsonian Manual will contain a standing list of my agents,—all others who use my name, or profess to have my medicines, are impostors, and I warn my fellow-citizens to beware of them.

I deem it my duty to put the public on their guard, in a particular manner, against the following persons, who are using my name, directly or indirectly, but who either never had any authority from me, or have been dismissed from my confidence for unfaithfulness. Neither myself, nor my system of practice, is to be held responsible for their conduct.

Caleb Sandborn, Berwick, Me.
 John B. Healey, Augusta, Me.
 Benjamin Plummer, Bangor, Me.
 Robert Mowe, Eastport, Me.
 Horatio N. Palmer, Belfast, Me.
 Bayley Pierce, " "
 E. G. Gould, " "
 S. Sewall, Scarboro', Me.
 Lewis Watson, Bangor, "
 Mr. Jacobs, " "
 Mr. Burke, Calais, "
 Joshua Taylor, Norridgewock, Me.
 Colby & Smith, Gardiner, Me.
 Hilton, Frost & Mason, Portland, Me.,
 Mr. Jones, St. Stephens, Me.
 Mr. Wilcox, Bennington, Vt.
 A. H. Platt, Rahway, N. J.
 Hosea Winchester; Wm. Johnson; Eliakim Darling; Hale & Osgood; and Elias Smith, all of Boston, Mass.
 William Clark, Lowell, Mass.
 Ralph Rugg, West Amesbury, Mass.
 Martin Bryant, North Adams, Mass.
 Samuel Sprague, Lowell, Mass.
 — Ames, Ipswich, Mass.
 John Cheever, Charlestown, Mass.
 Nathan Wright & Son, Cambridgeport, Mass.

Samuel Emmons, Waltham, Mass.
 Thomas Lapham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Mr. Frisby, Mr. Sweet, and P. Lapham, New York.
 J. J. Gates, Rochester, N. Y.
 J. A. Brown, Providence, R. I.
 — Farewell, Woonsocket, R. I.
 John Sandborn, Somersworth, Great Falls, N. H.
 Michael L. Priest, Durham, N. H.
 Philbrook & Marshall, Nashua, N. H.
 H. Jameson, " "
 O. N. Chase, " "
 P. D. Badger, Newport, N. H.
 Aaron Mudge, Portsmouth, N. H.
 Mr. Kenedy, " "
 John White, " "
 Mr. Leighton, " "
 B. W. Sperry, New Haven, Conn.
 I. J. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.
 Rev. Dr. Robinson, Lebanon, Conn.
 A. E. Sperry, New London, "
 Geo. W. Rubey, Norwalk, "
 A. S. Pelton, Clinton, "
 G. G. Field, North Madison, "
 Wm. Allen, Jun. New Britain, "
 George Pease, Guilford, "
 Aaron Fenn, Roxbury, "
 G. W. Riley, Goshen, "
 E. Larrabee, Baltimore, Md.

The following individuals, now holding agencies from me, have shown themselves unworthy of my confidence; I therefore revoke their agencies, and hold myself no longer responsible for any of their acts.

MASSACHUSETTS.—James Osgood, who keeps with Daniel Lee Hale, at Blackstone and Endicott Streets, *Boston*. John A. Andrews, *Worcester*. John Locke, *Boston*. Alexander Scamel, *Milford*. Asa McCollum, *Leicester*. George Howe, *Marlboro'*. John Edson, *Bridgewater*. Phebe H. Hale, *Rowley*. Sumner Jacobs, *Springfield*. (Chickopee Falls.) Calvin Sanderson, *Springfield*. Jonas W. Chapman, *Boston*.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—George E. Morrill, *South Ware*. S. W. King, *New Ipswich*.

MAINE.—Nicholas Smith, *Hallowell*. O. Wright, *Livermore*. S. W. Elliot, *Industry*. Jonathan Marden, *Paris*. John Shaw, *Exeter*.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Frederick Plummer, J. W. Comfort, Aaron Comfort, *Philadelphia*.

VERMONT.—Joseph Wright, *Montpelier*.

NEW YORK.—Oliver O. Cook, *White Creek*.

☞ Some of the above named individuals make use of vegetable poisons, and I consider it my duty to put the public upon their guard, respecting them. Those who assume my name to deceive and impose upon the people, are not entitled, either in law or justice, to any recompense for their services. I would remark, also, that the above named Winchester has been travelling in the West, and Johnson, his partner, in the East, for the purpose of vending their spurious medicines. A word to the wise, &c.

I also understand that the above-named Hale has been round the country selling medicine; but he has no authority for so doing from me. I have no travelling agents.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Boston, June 15, 1840.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

Acton, Robert Chaffee

Ashburnham, Amos S Davis

Amesbury, Andrew Howarth

Ashby, F A Kendall

Andover, John Harding

Andover, (Ballard Vale) Aaron P. Holt.

Ashby, Thomas Gibson

Colerain, Oscar J Martin

" Calvin W. Shattuck

Chesterfield, Amos Bisby

" Varnum Nichols

Danvers, Amos Trask, and J R Pattin

" Joseph Shaw Jr.

Essex, Eli F Burnham

" E. B. Putnam.

Eastham, Scotter Cobb

Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde

" M. O. Bradford

Gloucester, Samuel Friend

" Gideon Lane

" David E. Saunders

Harvard, J. Hosmer

Leveret, Myron Ashley

Lowell, Daniel Hutchinson

" Perkins H Dow

Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney

Milford, S Sumner

Middleborough, Rev A Briggs

South Andover, Jacob Jenkins

North Reading, Eben'r Eaton

" Thomas Abbot

North Andover, L. T. Presson

New Bedford, Prince Weeks

" " G. Nye

Newburyport, G W Goodwin

" J Blood

Orleans, Vickery Sparrow

Plymouth, Samuel Barnes

Reading, N K J Vinal

Shelburne, Rufus Furbush

Sandwich, Calvin Fisher

Salem, R W Merrill

Springfield, Sirguy Noble

Sturbridge, D Mason

Stoughton, Luther Belcher

Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh

Sudbury, Nahum Thomson

Templeton, Joshua Hosmer

Walpole, Williard Lewis

Waltham, J Shepley

Woburn, Moses H. Pierce

Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester

Camden, Thomas Annis

" William Merriam

East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon

Eastport, John Shackford

Frankfort, George Kimball

Kennebunk, E. Wormwood

Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher

Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster

" M. M. Miles

Machias, Wm. Smith

Norway, Jotham Goodnow

Portland, Daniel Sawyer

" Rev. C. D. French

Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield

Ripley, Samuel A. Todd

Searsmont, Randlet Ness

Thomaston, Horatio Alden

Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, A. Watkins, and Bethuel Keith

Exeter, S. J. Perkins

Kingston, John Dearborn,

Langdon, Royal Shumway

Meredith, William M. Ladd

Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq

New Ipswich, C. Hosmer

New Hampton, James Jackson

Nashua, Jesse Whitney

Pembroke, Moses Martin

Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn

Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds

Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Bennington, George Boardman Jr

Chelsea, Benj. Grant

Charlemont, David Todd

Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield

Dover, Daniel Leonard

East Randolph, P. Smith

Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson

Halifax, S. Plumb

" Eben'r M. Clark

" Alvah Brooks

" John Reid, Esq.

Green River, Sam'l Cutting

Guilford, Henry Packer

" Philip Martin

Londonderry, J. Arnold

Randolph, Jehiel Smith

Woodstock, Nathan Cushing

" Jacob Holt

Whitingham, W. Goodnow

" Reuben Green

" Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson

New Haven, George Munson

Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson

New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev-
enth St., near 5th Avenue

Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding

Troy, Ira Wood

Westport, J. K. French

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman

Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Wilmington, Wm. T. Gerts

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

New Book.**TO THE THOMSONIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

The public mind has been agitated for two and a half years past, in relation to a revision of my Narrative and New Guide to Health, by Morris Mattson, who has had said work in hand for said purpose.

After the original time for said work to be completed had expired, I added seven months more of time, in order that no reasonable excuse could be offered, on his part, for not having the work complete. I also loaned Mr. Mattson \$1150 in cash, so that there should be no deficiency on my part, so far as money could facilitate the work. On the 1st of June, the time appointed for the completion of the work, the Narrative had not been commenced; the plates were not finished; and what was read of the description of the remedies, was defective. I therefore gave up the idea of Mr. Mattson being competent to put the work in complete order for publication, and concluded he did not design to do the work as agreed upon. I also found that the wants of the people were, that the Book should be written or compiled by a PRACTICAL man, *Mr. Mattson not being such.*

I therefore dissolved all connection with said Mattson, relative to the publication of said work; and shall now go on with it myself, assisted by my son, Dr. John Thomson, of the City of Albany, N. Y., and am in hopes to produce a work during the coming season, that will meet the approbation of the long disappointed community.

No pains will be spared to furnish a work that will meet the wants of the public. The Narrative will be embellished with a new Portrait of the Author, on steel—and the New Guide will contain numerous engravings of the principal plants used in the Thomsonian System of Practice, together with new remedies.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

From the Boston True Thomsonian of Sept. 15. 1840.

"We are sometimes asked whether Dr. M. [Mattson] intends to publish his work, on the supposition that Dr. Thomson's copy right is good for nothing. Dr. M. informs us that he does not know whether the copy right is good, or good for nothing. He does not intend to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson's book, and therefore will not violate his copy right, admitting its validity."

N. B. I am willing Mr. Mattson should publish his work, on the above condition—that is, if he does not copy from my book.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthen-

ing plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

✂ The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

✂ CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, payable in advance. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

✂ Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, free of postage, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.”—SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, JANUARY 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 5.

THE KIND OLD FRIENDLY FEELINGS.

The kind old friendly feelings!—

We have their spirit yet,
Though years and years have pass'd, old friend,
Since thou and I last met!
And something of gray Time's advance
Seems in thy fading eye,
Yet, 'tis the same good honest glance
I loved in days gone by—
E'er the kind old friendly feelings
Had ever brought one sigh!

The warm old friendly feelings!

Ah, who need yet be told
No other link can bind the heart,
Like those loved links of old!
Thy hand I joyed in youth to clasp,
The touch of age may show,
Yet, 'tis the same true hearty grasp
I loved long years ago—
E'er the last old friendly feelings
Had taught one tear to flow!

The kind old friendly feelings!

Oh, seem they now less dear,
Because some recollections
May meet us with a tear?
The hopes we shared—the early beams
Ambition showed our way,
Have fled, dear friend, like morning dreams
Before Truth's searching ray;
Still, we've kept the kind old friendly feelings
That blessed our youthful way!

[From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.]

PHYSIC.

There is no error more prevalent or more injurious to mankind than that of administering physic as a remedial agent. So general does this practice prevail, that almost every individual has his favorite nostrum, and what is singular, as great as the variety is, every agent has its advocates. The effects of purgatives on the human system are as evident to the close observer as it is possible to imagine, and if we allow ourselves to examine into the subject, we shall see at once its absurdity.

The Thomsonian system of curing disease has never been confuted in sound argument or proven false in practice. And those who strictly adhere to the anti-physic plan, among whom are to be found a large number of respectable individuals, inform us that every form of disease has been successfully treated without resorting to the ancient practice of employing

physic of any kind possessing the least quality of cathartic properties.

The philosophy on which is predicated the abandonment of physic as a curative process, is founded on the belief, that no article whatever can be a proper remedial agent, that does not in the strictest sense act in harmony with food, and consequently with the laws that govern the animal economy.

In order that we may be generally understood in regard to the term physic, we submit the following views touching the subject.

Physic is intended to operate on the bowels, either by means of its introduction into the stomach or by enemata (enema.) The effect produced by its operation is debility, and we may add, without fear of contradiction, that its habitual employment is as destructive to health as bleeding, and we firmly believe as many lives have been destroyed by the purging process as by that of the bleeding, or any other principle employed whereby the effects are of a similar character. The idea of removing disease by depletive agents is founded in error and must be met by reason and well founded facts.

A case in point we shall here relate of a near neighbor, who was so unfortunate as to be cast on the bed of affliction by that melancholy disease known by the name of *mania portu*. The subject of this disease kept an oyster and eating house; he was fifty-two years of age. His former occupation was that of a waterman, and as we were informed was an uncommon drinker of ardent spirits. As our errand to the house was merely to partake of a plate of oysters, we did not enter the room where he was lying. His niece who officiated during his indisposition, informed us that she had that day sent for Dr. Rutter, having found that all she had done proved unavailing. The first words she uttered as we entered the house, were as follows.

“I fear we shall lose uncle, I have done all in my power for him, and find he is sinking fast! He has lost the use of his limbs entirely! I gave up all hopes of his recovery to-day, and sent for Dr. Rutter, (one of the learned faculty,) who examined him, and then said, ‘your uncle will not be long with you.’ What shall I do for him? said I. ‘Nothing,’ was the reply; ‘he is too far gone for medicine to reach his case—you may however give him whatever he desires or asks for.’”

On receiving the above intelligence, we gave

our opinion in regard to the case, and intimated at least a probability of success; at all events, we gave the assurance that our remedies would do no harm. With this assurance she felt new hopes, and was bent for a trial of their application. Witnessing her inclination strongly bent on a trial, we returned to our home, where generally can be found a supply of the Thomsonian remedies for family use, and procured a paper of composition and some nerve powder. On presenting these simple articles for use, with directions for their administration, bathing with the third preparation, etc., we entered in a particular manner on the nature of the case, and the effects that would be inevitably produced, on the administration of physic, and therefore strongly maintained the necessity of avoiding its use.

The question might here be agitated, why did we lay such particular stress on the application or use of physic? We answer, on the ground of the patient being "beyond the reach of medicine," as was pronounced by the doctor, whose opinion is supported by experience, that any article of a depletive or deleterious character, must, under such circumstances, prove fatal. The life of the patient must have been at a low ebb when the doctor pronounced his opinion in this case, and the conclusion to be drawn from his remarks are evidently against depletive remedies, although the regular practice is established on the erroneous idea, that to restore health the life of the patient must be reduced. If the principle of curing disease by the reduction of life be correct in one instance, it must be so in all. We know the doctrine will be met with astonishment by those who have been educated in the schools of physic, as well as by those who are blindly led into the belief that the popular practice of poison and depletion is established on scientific principles. In order to establish the faculty plan of doctoring the diseased, we are obliged to prove that a sick man has too much life; and consequently it is necessary to employ such remedies as are best adapted to its reduction. How can a sick man have too much vitality, and in what manner does it (vitality) operate on the animal economy? If life itself constitutes disease, would it not be consistent for every human being in perfect health, to put himself under regular treatment. We are firmly of opinion it would be consistent with "regular" medical science—for who will pretend to doubt that the means employed by M. D's. are not adapted to the reduction as well as to the destruction of human life. If any one should harbor a doubt on this subject, let him make the experiment, not on himself, but on some brute animal, and if he is not satisfied, we recommend that he apply for a

diploma to practice scientifically the art of administering poisons, together with bleeding, cupping, leeching, purging, starving, &c.

From the Southern Botanic Journal.

RETENTION OF THE PLACENTA.

Believing that our correspondence while at the North, during the past summer, would possess no particular interest for our readers at this late day, we have determined to present them only with the following extracts:—

"As I have invariably refused to attend any case for the last two years,—the refusal being grounded on the insufficiency of my health for a general practice, and the necessity of refusing all calls, if I refused one, you will be surprised to learn, that on the 26th of July I attended an obstetrical case. I was called upon about three o'clock A. M. to visit Mrs. B., then in labor with her sixth child. The physician who had been previously employed, being out of the city, I felt unwilling that the case should be lost to the cause, particularly as it was the first time the lady had ever called in a Thomsonian physician. I went, therefore, and found the case an interesting one. The amniotic waters had been discharged about twenty-four hours before I arrived. Generally, this circumstance produces a lingering labor; but before I got to the house,—the distance being about four miles,—the child was already born. A natural delivery had taken place half an hour after her husband started for me: though, for want of proper information by the only lady who was present with the mother, it was permitted to lie as it had entered the world. I immediately tied and cut the umbilical cord, and presented to the mother as fine a boy as I ever saw. The placenta had not yet been discharged; but discovering no danger of internal hemorrhage, and finding the pains temporarily diminishing, I deemed it most prudent to employ no force in its delivery. After a retention of nine hours, the placenta was expelled by the effort of nature.

"I mention these particulars to show the young practitioner, that, notwithstanding the fears expressed by Dr. Hersey, (see his *Midwife's Practical Dictionary*,) but little danger is to be apprehended from a retention of the placenta, if the treatment be such as it should be. It is true, that in some similar cases, internal hemorrhage does occur; but this may be obviated, as in the present instance, by the administration of a course of medicine, and the plentiful use of a decoction of red raspberry leaves, capsicum, and nervine.

"I have no doubt that the speedy natural de-

livery effected, was owing to a course of medicine given by the husband of the lady the evening before; for it should be recollected, as I have already observed, that the premature discharge of the waters, generally induces a lingering labor. The influence of lobelia as an excitant of uterine action, is well known, and in this case was fully manifested; making the pains more regular and effective. The equalization of the circulation by the capsicum took off the preter-natural determination of blood to the uterus, and thereby prevented hemorrhage. If, however, from the sinking of the pulse, we should suspect internal hemorrhage to exist, I would advise the removal of the placenta by art, and the frequent repetition of large doses of capsicum; with the injection, *per vaginam*, of decoction of witch-hazel, if the hemorrhage be profuse."

EFFECTS OF POISONS.

"On visiting the house of a friend, a few days ago, I witnessed a sight, which, while it called for the deepest sympathy for the little victim of poisonous treatment, excited feelings of lasting disgust for a system of medical practice which employs the most deleterious agents, instead of innocuous vegetables that act in harmony with the laws of life, and can never, therefore, prove destructive to any organ, tissue, or function of the animal economy. The case, as I learned from the afflicted parents, is as follows:—

"The patient, a little boy, was attacked with colic when but a few days old; and the nurse, who had lost two or three nights' sleep, gave him a dose of laudanum to mitigate his pain, and thereby procure rest for herself. The dose, however, proved too powerful, and produced congestion of the brain; rendering him a perfect idiot, (as is now evident,) and subjecting him to the frequent recurrence of fits. He is now nearly two years of age, but is as entirely unable to sit up, as the infant of two weeks. The only motion of which he is capable, is throwing his head backward and forward; and the only sound he has ever uttered, is similar to that which, in very young children, is called 'crowing.' His fits have recurred every few hours since the unfortunate dose; and no evacuation of the bowels is ever procured, except by the administration of an injection. From that time, too, some one or other of the family has had to sit up every night, in order to render the necessary assistance during his spasms. Had I not seen him, I could scarcely have believed it possible for him to have lived so long in his present condition.

"I am aware that it may be objected, that this case is not evidence against the judicious

and *scientific* employment of poisons, inasmuch as the dose was exhibited by an *unskilful nurse*, who may have given it in too large a quantity, or at an improper time. I acknowledge the force of the objection, and bring the facts to prove, first, the natural and therefore unavoidable tendency of poisons to diminish and finally destroy the vital energies; and secondly, to show the danger of their employment in any case, since, in all, they must be confided, in a greater or less degree, to the hands of those totally unqualified to judge of the necessity or propriety of their administration. Had the medicine in the present instance been such as is recommended by Dr. Thomson, the result, it is evident, would have been very different; for these, as before remarked, possessing no power or tendency to disorganize even the finest tissue, or impair even the most delicate function of the human organization, could not, by any possibility, have been followed by such injurious and distressing consequences."

CATHARTICS.

"The same reason which I urged, in a former letter, against the use of poisons, will also hold good in relation to the employment of cathartics in any case whatever. There are certain conditions of the system, it is acknowledged by all, in which purgatives would be obviously injurious. Now, if we could keep the practice of medicine entirely in the hands of the educated physician, so as to ensure the exhibition of cathartics only at the proper times and in proper quantities, the reasons for their rejection from the materia medica would not be so cogent: although, even then, it could be conclusively shown that their action on the animal economy is not in accordance with sound physiological and pathological views. A restriction of them, however, to the profession alone, is wholly impracticable; and the effects of their injudicious administration, were exemplified most fatally in a case which occurred, some time since, in the practice of a friend of mine in Philadelphia.

"He had an obstetrical case which terminated well; and both mother and child did well for some days. The child becoming costive, the nurse, without the knowledge of the doctor, who is opposed to cathartics under any circumstances, gave it a tea-spoonful of castor-oil; and, though previously a fine and healthy infant, it immediately sank under the operation and died! How strong an argument against cathartics!"

From the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

IRREGULARS IN PRACTICE.

DEAR SIR,—Do you ever permit your sub-

scribers to comment on your own editorial articles? If so, please allow a distant but constant reader of your pages to say that your late remarks on "homœopathy" were perused with interest and great pleasure. I most fully and heartily accord with the spirit of the communication, and I forward this merely to add my feeble support to the excellent stand you have taken. I beg leave to say that "it has amazed me, too, that any one should have suggested that the dignity of the pure school requires that these infinitesimal gentlemen should be thrust out of the Æsculapian temple." Are they not generally men of regular medical education? Are they not respectable in talents? Are they more clannish, more exclusive, than are all eager and sanguine discoverers? Are they not seeking with us to relieve human distress and suffering? And because they are adapting a new theory of medication, and, therefore, new methods of administering remedies, are we to frown on them and thrust them from our fellowship? We *may* thrust them from our fraternity: but if we do, we add another to the many proofs we have already afforded the world around us, that we are a quarrelsome—an irritable—a litigious race of men. I have often blushed, and for many years, at the consequential, tumid, vamping, dictatorial, swaggering, illiberal manner with which some of my brethren pronounce the words "quackery!" "empiricism!" "trick!" "humbugging!" at the report of any *methodus medendi* that does not quadrate with the royal, beaten track.

Is it decided that we have arrived at the *ne plus ultra* of medical and surgical perfection? If not, is it impossible that some adventurer in therapeutics—some eccentric workman in the noble labor of curing diseases—some over-the-fence experimenter—nay, some *ignorant* fellow—yes, all that, some ignorant essayist—may strike out, in the midst of much error, some substantial improvement? Why, then, not keep our eyes open to what is passing around us? I heard a most excellent practitioner, many years since, say that he had learned many very valuable clinical facts and improvements from "old women;" and the man who did not keep both ears open to the remarks of discreet, experienced ladies, would lose some valuable aids in the progress of his professional improvement.

There are some of our profession who think they have discharged all their duty when they have pronounced the word "humbug" on any new plan of curing diseases, and pompously declared that they never will countenance such quackery by even inquiring into its merits. But, *have* they done their duty to the families to whom they administer when sick? Are they

grasping every improvement and incorporating it into their practice? Why was Harvey anathematized? Simply because indolence and pride could not brook innovation. Are not the homœopaths proscribed for the same reason? Suppose we retain them—I mean such as are candid and honorable—in our fellowship. May *we* not be benefitted as well as they? Common sense forbids the hope that their practice of administering remedies can ever throw much light upon our path. But the *theory* that an ophthalmia may be removed by slightly increasing its inflammatory action; an indolent ulcer, a burn, a cutaneous eruption, in the same way; that a diarrhœa may be cured by artificial catharsis; a diabetes by extreme factitious diuresis, &c. &c., surely is worthy of careful consideration by every member of our profession.

But, Sir, I did not mean to be an advocate for Hahnemannism. My remarks are addressed to my fellow laborers. I beg them to consider if they know how contemptible it appears to our employers, that, as a class of men, we make war on all competitors not of our own stamp. Suppose we should take off a little dignity and treat an adventurer kindly. Suppose we admit to the world, frankly, fully, without reserve, that we count our school discipline, our many painful, anxious researches, nothing; that we claim precedence and employment, and *expect* to have them, nay, are sure that we shall have them, for this single reason, that we have more skill than the interlopers. Armed with this consciousness and confidence, we need not be litigious. We need not fear intercourse and communication with the neophytes: for if we do not acquire very great light, we certainly shall save ourselves from reproach. ANTIQUUS.

THE TEETH.

Attention to the cleansing of the teeth cannot be inculcated in the young at too early an age. The neglect of brushing and washing the teeth, is invariably attended with both disease and decay, which, by timely and daily ablutions, might have been avoided altogether. Those who have grown up in the omission of this salubrious habit, should lose not an instant in availing themselves of a practice so essential to general health and cleanliness. The extremes of heat and cold are injurious to the teeth; therefore, the water with which the teeth are cleansed should be what is termed lukewarm. They should be well but gently brushed both night and morning; the brush should be neither extremely hard nor extremely soft, but should possess a medium quality. Should the gums bleed slightly during the operation, it will produce a salutary effect. (?) The most effectual, and in-

deed the only means of keeping the teeth and gums in a healthy state, is by using the brush daily. Those who possess good teeth, should be careful to preserve them. When they are in good order, and free from tartar, the use of a soft brush once a day, with a little dentifrice occasionally, will be quite sufficient to keep them so; and with this the owner should rest satisfied. With respect to tooth powder, which has afforded to quackery and imposture a spacious field for their operations, whereon the credulity of mankind has enabled them for years to reap a golden harvest, it is obvious to all who give themselves the trouble to think, that the simpler the ingredients of its composition, the more beneficial is it likely to prove.—[Hunter.

Bayberry bark and a little ginger, make a first rate tooth powder.—[Ed. Bot. Med. Rec.

HEALTH.

The adulteration of medicines is justly complained of as one of the most stupendous and reckless frauds known to our times. This practice of adulterating drugs and medicines has been increasing for several years, and has at length reached that point in England, to call for special investigation. Professor Thomson of London, in an examination before the Medical Poor Inquiry Committee, gave some facts which are enough to startle a nervous medicine eater. He stated that opium was often adulterated with various foreign substances—that calomel often consisted of little else than sulphate of pyrites—that white precipitate of mercury was often used as calomel—that scamony has sometimes been found so mixed with chalk, as to contain little more than eight per cent. of the pure ingredient—that gamboge had been manufactured entirely out of other substances—that milk of sulphur very commonly contained one half of stucco—that Peruvian bark, as it came from the hands of the drug grinder, often contained a mixture of charcoal, Venetian red, Carthaginian bark, lignumvitæ, satin-wood, &c. &c. Even the more common and useful drugs have to stand a similar struggle with knavery. Ground ginger is often composed one-half at least of Indian meal, or what is still worse, of saw dust—liquorice powder is sometimes found composed of barley meal and common sugar, with a little tumeric.

Similar results are found in this country in so great a degree that people have become suspicious and doubtful of all ground spices and drugs. Even cayenne, the Thomsonians have found to be greatly adulterated. Pills, ointments, and other patent medicines are counterfeited with a boldness enough to astonish one.

Could people but watch the movements in some of the apothecaries' shops, in counterfeiting and compounding pills, essences, and the like, they would have less confidence in "such villainous compounds" than at present.

That mercantile men should suffer such widespread frauds in the adulteration of drugs and medicines, by which thousands of lives are jeopardized, if not sacrificed, is truly astonishing; and we see not how respectable dealers can get along without exposing the perpetrators of the mischief. If this kind of fraud is to continue, the people will be under the necessity of using such herbs as they may be acquainted with for the cure of diseases; feeling greater safety in this manner than by running the gauntlet through a lot of adulterated drugs and counterfeit medicines.

We think it high time that an effectual stop was put to this business, and it may be by proper vigilance in all those who are interested.

If people have doubts of the genuineness of drugs, they can adopt the preventive system by frequent bathing—good exercise in the open air and the use of plain and simple food. This is cheaper and probably a better way for us all.—[Waldo Gazette.

PREVENTION.

The means for preserving health are simple. Regular exercise, cheerful spirits, nutritious food in reasonable quantities, with care to avoid violent exposures, will save many a doctor's bill, and insure a blessing compared with which all others of a temporal nature are small indeed. The present fashions of society in meats, drink, and dress, together with an exemption from honest toil, which is regarded disreputable in certain circles, are, we verily believe, the foundations of most of the diseases which prematurely terminate life. Follow nature: let fashion be brought into a subserviency to the laws of health, and a vast amount of suffering might be prevented. Above all things, keep alcohol, in every form, out of the stomach. It is a poison: it deranges the functions of the stomach and brain, disorders the blood, and sows, broad cast, the seeds of disease throughout the whole entire system, which will in due time spring forth, impair the health, and terminate life. Beware of that enemy—he is sure to triumph at last.

Stern winter is here. Colds are the first steps of consumption. Let the body, and especially the feet, be well protected. Both ladies and gentlemen would do well to think more of life than of fashion, and procure a suitable covering for the feet during the cold season. A want of this caution has brought many a fair one to an early grave.—[Maine Cultivator.

TIME'S FESTIVAL.

Old Time once held a festival
 To bless the opening year—
 The feast he spread was free to all ;
 From lowly hut, from lordly hall,
 He bade his guests appear ;
 But for useful thrift he has long been famed—
 So lest his revel might be blamed
 For luxury and art,
 The only requisite he named,
 Was to come with a **HAPPY HEART**.

Who gathered to that scene of mirth
 With joy's benignant brow ?
 Time looked for none of the mighty of earth—
 The potentates of lofty birth,
 Before whom nations bow—
 He knew that crowns had thorns of care—
 But the smiling courtier—came he there ?
 Or fashion's brilliant throng ?
 The proud, the brave, the rich, the fair ?
 The lords of wit and song ?

When Time had scanned the number o'er,
 That came to share his feast,
 'T is said he declared that never more
 Would he hold his court on the Old World's shore
 Or bid a titled guest—
 So we opine they would not join
 Where the **HAPPY ONES** were sure to shine !
 And then his brightest days,
 Full on Freedom's mighty shrine,
 Time turned their glorious rays.

And thus **COLUMBIA** was ordained
 The home of the **HAPPY HEARTED**—
 Not here the soul is seeming chained ;
 Not here the smile by flattery teigned ;
 Not here is true love martyr'd—
 But life's bright path is free to all ;
 Yet should Time hold a festival,
 To bless the coming year,
 And only bid the **HAPPY** call—
 Who, think you, would appear ?

MAN'S INTEREST.

Interest is the object to which every man, according to his constitution, attaches happiness. The same happiness does not suit all men, as that of every man depends upon his particular organization. It may, therefore, be easily conceived, that in beings of such different natures, what constitutes the pleasure of one man, may be indifferent, or even disgusting, to another. No man can determine what will constitute the happiness of his neighbor.

Compelled, however, to judge of actions from their effects upon ourselves, we approve of the interest which animates them, according to the advantage which they produce to the human species. Thus, we admire valor, generosity, talents, and virtue. It is the nature of man to love himself, to preserve his existence, and to render it happy. Experience and reason soon

convince him that he cannot alone command the means of procuring happiness. He sees other human beings engaged in the same pursuit, yet capable of assisting him to attain his desired object. He perceives that they will favor his views in so far only as they coincide with their own interest. He will then conclude, that to secure his own happiness, he must conciliate their attachment, approbation, and assistance ; and that it is necessary to make them find advantages in promoting his views. The wise man finds it his interest to be virtuous. Virtue is nothing more than the art of rendering a man happy, by contributing to the happiness of others. Merit and virtue are founded upon the nature and wants of man.

The virtuous man is always happy. In every face he reads the right which he has acquired over the heart. Vice is compelled to yield to virtue, whose superiority she blushingly acknowledges. Should the man of virtue sometimes languish in contempt or obscurity, the justice of his cause forms his consolation for the injustice of mankind. This consolation is denied to the wicked, whose hearts are the abode of anxiety, shame, and remorse.

[From Alcott's Library of Health.]

NINE-TENTHS OF US INTEMPERATE.

The following paragraphs are from the pen of Dr. James Johnson, an individual who stands as high in the medical profession as any other.

"In every class of society down to the very lowest, the quality or quantity of food and drink is perpetually offending, more or less, the nerves of the stomach and bowels. A man in perfect health and with an excellent appetite, is allured by variety of dishes, agreeable company, provocative liquors and pressing invitations, to take food more in accordance with the relish of appetite than the power of digestion. If we do not find among the lowest classes the same amount of hypochondriacal and nervous affections, we observe a still greater proportion of purely corporeal maladies, such as organic diseases of the stomach, lungs, heart, liver, and other parts.

"Nine-tenths of man, in civilized society, commit more or less of this intemperance every day. This over-distention and inordinate daily stimulation, weakens the powers of the stomach in the end, according to a law universally acknowledged in physiology. Any organ that is over-exerted in its functions, is sooner or later weakened—nay, the remark applies to the whole machine. Nothing is more common than to see originally good constitutions broken up, prematurely, by inordinate labor, whether of body or mind."

Is this a slander on our species? Dr. J. is but a man, and is amenable to the tribunal of public opinion; let him not be permitted to charge us with being—nine-tenths of us—intemperate, if it is not so.

But if the charge is just, then let us see to what it amounts. The United States contain about seventeen millions of civilized men—for we suppose the colored people will be regarded as civilized—of whom, at the above rate, fifteen millions and three hundred thousand are intemperate.

Not that the degree of this repletion or intemperance from eating too much, is the same in every individual; there are as many varieties of it, almost, as there are individuals. The following, according to Dr. J., is the description of a fit of it, as it is experienced by many in the daily walks of life—by thousands, in fact, who would scorn the imputation of intemperance or ill health.

“Instead of sound sleep, the gourmand experiences much restlessness, and what is called fidgets, through the night—or if he sleeps, alarms his neighbors with the stifled groans of the nightmare. In the morning, we perceive some of those sympathetic effects on other parts of the system, which at a later period of the career of intemperance, play a more important part in the drama. The head aches—the intellect is not clear or energetic—the eyes are muddy—the nerves are unstrung—the tongue is furred—there is more inclination for drink than food—the urinary secretion is turbed or high-colored—and the bowels very frequently disordered in consequence of the irritating materials which have passed into the intestinal canal partially digested.”

Now there are thousands of comparatively healthy farmers in New England, whose daily experience answers to the above description nearly as well as face answers to face in the glass. But if so with our farmers, with whom is it not so? This, however, is usually the mere beginning of sorrow. The state of things here described, or a state not unlike it, is succeeded, in most, by symptoms more and more distressing, till, upon the accession of some prevailing epidemic, or perhaps without one, the individual is seized with a disease highly dangerous and often fatal.

Yet you cannot convince one in a hundred of these farmers, who are on the high road to severe disease of the stomach, heart, brain, liver or lungs, that any thing ails them. They have worked too hard, or over-slept, or their usual rest has been interrupted, or they have taken cold; so they suppose. Yet it usually takes but a little time to trace the chain of morbid affections to a heavy supper, or a series of heavy

suppers; or to repletion or a habit of repletion, in some form or other. To some or all of these causes of mischief, a cold, too, may have been added.

For ourselves, we have no more doubt of the justness of Dr. J.'s charge than we have of the commonest truth in mathematics; and if, instead of nine-tenths, the Doctor had said ninety-nine hundredths, we should have believed him. We have had too much experience, as a medical man, in what are deemed the healthiest portions of our country, not to know that perfect health is oftener spoken of than known. We have seldom, if ever, become acquainted with an individual, young or old, who was not more or less diseased; nor have we seen many who were not diseased from repletion.

ODD NOTIONS.—A cotemporary in an article on “the honor a man hath in his own country,” thus quaintly remarks on the dislike of some persons to see a woman eat.

It has been said by an old writer, that he who truly loves a woman should never sit down with her at table, as the act of eating, tho' a very natural and necessary one, as almost every body finds out now-a-days that has to go to market with a big basket, and a little purse, is from its very grossness, and earthliness, an antidote to sentiment, and a deadly foe to this delicate passion. We cannot entirely agree, ourselves, with this opinion, for we have rather a vulgar taste for a good dinner, and like to see a woman put something else besides whalebone or steel, beneath her “jacket;” but the argument is correct in general sense and very pertinently illustrates Mrs. Malaprop's axiom, that “too much feedery breeds despise.” It is true that a woman with a potatoe in her mouth, a piece of fat meat, or an apple dumpling, is not exactly at the time, the most lovely object in creation; still it gives us an idea of life, of health and of appetite, which we infinitely prefer to the picturesque, or the romantic.

RETORT.—Some time ago, a certain clergyman being on the point of death, but being afterwards recovered, was told that a young clergyman was applying for the next presentation. The reverend gentleman, upbraided him with wishing to supplant him. “I now perceive,” added he, “that you wanted my death, sir.”—“No no,” replied the other “I only wanted your living, sir.”

“You seem better *fed* than *taught*,” said a bishop to a waggoner, who stopped his way.—“Of course,” replied the fellow—“*we feed ourselves, you teach us.*”

LIGHTNING.—A friend states the following circumstances as having occurred under his knowledge some years ago, in one of the towns of Massachusetts. Several men who had been at work in the field took refuge from a thunder shower in a covered wagon. A bolt of lightning fell upon the wagon, tearing a hole through the top, and killing apparently the man directly under. He was immediately laid upon the ground by his companions, his breast made bare, and a stream of water poured incessantly upon the stomach, from an elevation of six feet.—After this operation had been persevered in for an hour or two, small signs of life were exhibited, and finally the man recovered the use of his faculties, though never so perfectly as before.—Scarcely any case could ever occur, where there would be less hope to stimulate an effort.—[N. Y. Jour. of Commerce.]

TRUE PLEASURES.—I am afraid that you esteem it no deviation from duty to associate with, and follow the example of those individuals who have never, for a single hour, given themselves to serious thought. You must follow no injurious examples, though by so doing you subject yourselves to a course of self-denial. The happy results that will accrue from it, when you are farther advanced in life, will be incalculable. I am not disposed to make of you a Zimmerman or a hermit. Far from it. I wish to see you mingle in society, and partake of those salutary joys that spring from social intercourse, and never to indulge in those pleasures or pursuits which will destroy your constitution and leprous your mind.

We know little of what passes in the hearts of our most intimate friends, what concealed wells of deep feeling, and holy sentiment, and gushing sympathy there are in those who appear cold and careless. We all wear masks to one another. We are all better than our best friends believe us. Could we but lay open our hearts to one another and be seen by each other as we really are, hatred would cease, and contempt of man would find no place—strife and discord would end. We know not what treasures of rich and holy feeling our ignorance of each other's better nature leads us to throw away or to trample under foot.

If some of our youth knew how hard it is to get a living in what are called "the learned professions," they would not make such a rush to get into them. The thousands of half-starved lawyers and doctors in every part of the land ought to serve as a caution to those parents who think their youngsters too good for mechanics and farmers.

ANECDOTE.—The well known geologist, F., formerly had a large garden in eastern New York, where he then resided, in which he had collected many beautiful exotics, and which he took pleasure in showing to visitors. One day he had for his guest the Rev. Dr. B., a good old clergyman, who buried among Hebrew roots, knew little of vegetable ones. After dinner Mr. F., did the honors of the garden to Dr. B., who answered "*yes, yes,*"—all he could say to his hosts explanations. After admiring awhile the productions of so many climates, Dr. B's. attention was arrested by a wonderful plant, which Mr. F. had omitted to mention. "Why, Mr. F., what is this beautiful thing? You have not told me any thing about it. It is certainly a wonderful plant." "Pshaw, pshaw!" said F., in a great passion—"why Dr., that's a CABBAGE."

WESTERN IDIOMS.—In Iowa and parts adjacent, if you ask a man, "Do you know Col. S——?" The answer would be, "Know him? Why, stranger, I don't know any body else!"—[Exchange paper.]

Farther South the answer would be after this wise: "Know him! why, certainly—raised him from a small puppy!"

In speaking of the transmigration of souls a dandy wittily observed, that he remembered being the golden calf. "And now you've only lost the gilding," replied a lady.

"It's all over with me," as the pancake said ven it was turned.

"You are determined to get me into a broil," as the chicken said to the gridiron.

SCOLDING.—Many parents, guardians, and teachers, vent the impatience of their tempers by scolding, while engaged in efforts to restrain the wayward wills of those who are under their charge. This kind of management is productive of much evil to both parties. Let scolds remember that they must first learn to govern themselves, before they can establish good government in their families.

BE USEFUL.—Life is too short to be employed in selfish acts; and he whose highest ambition is, to gratify self, makes life wretched and dies unlamented, with none to raise up and call him blessed.

TIME.

Time *was*, is past; thou canst not it recall:
Time *is*, thou hast; employ the portion small;
Time *future* is not; and may never be;
Time *present* is the only time for thee.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the *New Guide*. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, JANUARY 15, 1841.

SCIENTIFIC TREATMENT.

In the Medical and Surgical Journal of the 8th inst., we find an account of the "symptoms exhibited during life, and the appearance presented upon the examination of the body after death, of the late George T. Kinney;" and an account of the treatment of the patient after medical aid was called—from the pen of Dr. Storer. The following is the account of the manner in which the patient was treated. We copy it that our readers may see how consistent (?) is the scientific practitioner.

"On the morning of the 9th of August last, between 12 and 1 o'clock, I was called to visit the late Mr. Kinney. He was lying in bed, complaining of an indescribable sensation at the epigastrium, and great distress in the lower portion of the abdomen; the pulse were very feeble; the surface of the body was cold and damp; the countenance was ghastly and slightly livid; the left fore-arm and hand were also livid. He had vomited, just before I entered his chamber, a yellowish green fluid—and a fluid of a similar character had passed his bowels. I learned that he was attacked with vomiting about fourteen hours previous to my visit, and that he had been constantly growing sicker from that time. I ordered sinapisms to be applied to the epigastrium and feet; forty drops of laudanum to be administered in hot water and brandy *pro re nata*—and an opiate injection to be thrown up his bowels.

"Upon my second visit, between 5 and 6 o'clock of the same morning, I found him more unwell; his sufferings were aggravated; the restlessness had increased; he complained of great thirst; was constantly calling for drink, and as constantly vomiting; the bowels appeared to be much more irritable than they had been—as there was a continual wish to evacuate them. The discharges were perfectly liquid, and yellowish. Slight twitchings of the muscles of the interior of the thighs were perceptible to the eye. The laudanum prescribed at my former visit had been given, but the injection had not been administered. I

again requested it might be employed—and ordered in addition a pill of calomel and opium.

"I saw my patient again at 10 o'clock A. M. He was rapidly sinking; the vomiting had ceased about an hour previously—but he was much more feeble; he complained of great dyspnoea; he was so much distressed that he could not lie in bed; but seated upon a large chamber vessel, the contents of his bowels were passing from him in a constant stream.

"In a few moments, Dr. Bigelow saw him with me. He had just been removed from the vessel upon which he had been sitting, and was seated in a chair, with his head thrown backward, and his feet resting upon the edge of the bedstead. The circulation was very languid—the pulsation of the radial artery was scarcely perceptible; the tongue was cold to the touch; he was almost insensible. We examined the discharges from the bowels, which were entirely liquid, and judged the quantity which had passed the previous three hours, to be about three quarts.

"I saw him one hour afterwards. He had been dead three-quarters of an hour. His body was in the same position as when I made my last visit. Muscular contractions, so strong as nearly to bring the knees in contact, although separated at some distance, were well marked, and observed with astonishment by the bystanders."

Here we have presented to us a patient, suffering under the pain and torture of poison, and a physician is called to administer to his relief. He comes, and in the wisdom of learned ignorance, adds poison to poison! Oh, wonderful antidote! And what was the effect of the prescription, on the patient? Did it relieve him? No! but the contrary, for on the physician's second visit he found his patient "more unwell; his sufferings were aggravated; the restlessness had increased," &c. What more could he have expected? He now ordered, "in addition, a pill of calomel and opium," and the next time he visits his patient, finds him "rapidly sinking," as might have been anticipated! Suppose the man had cut his throat—or some one had cut it for him—what would have been said of a surgeon, who, on being called to dress the wound, and save the man's life, should take a lancet and draw blood from the patient's arm; or a knife, and make the wound in the throat larger than it was when he first arrived? But we can see but little difference in the two modes of administering—except the last would be the quickest way of ending the distress of the sufferer.

Had a Thomsonian been called to attend the late Mr. Kinney, does any one believe that his death would have been laid to the charge of his widow? would not the medical faculty have exclaimed, with horror in their countenance, that the man was killed with quackery? We think they would.

This case, which has made so much noise of

late, we hope will tend to open the eyes of the people. It presents to them the facts as they really are. The scientific doctor gives poison to cure, and the evil-minded and vicious person gives it to kill. The question arises, does the nature of the poison become changed by being administered *scientifically*, or not? Of course not. Then, wherein consists the reason of giving it as a cure for disease—much more to stop the effect of poison that had been taken with the intention of destroying life.

If people will but examine the beauty of the system of the Thomsonian medical practice, and compare it with the old practice of bleeding, blistering, poisoning, and cupping patients, surely they will see the inconsistency of supporting any longer men who deal in poisons altogether. The Thomsonian medicines remove obstructions, expel virus from the blood, promote secretion and excretion, and invigorate and renew the life of the patient: while the old and fashionable system reduces the patient, destroys his vitality, weakens and reduces his system, and causes him to sink, and at last puts out the lamp of life entirely.

✂ The following, which we find in the *Mercantile Journal*, shows how ready people are to subscribe to the opinions of those who get their living by administering poison. Physicians have long advocated the doctrine and propagated it—it is for their interest to have the people ask their advice—that parents should *never give paregoric to their children*, unless by the advice and direction of a physician; and the *Journal* seems to assent to the same opinion. Why not say that parents who give these deleterious drugs, with or without the advice of a physician, are not worthy of the care of children! out with the truth, and tell people there is no need of such stuff, in any case, and that the physician who would prescribe it, should be considered as unworthy of your confidence and patronage. If paregoric is but laudanum reduced in strength, why not give the people the information which would be best for them, and their children, viz., that they had better not give their children that, or any other narcotic drug, whether prescribed by a physician or not.

It is frequently the case that a parent, through mistake, gives the child enough of some poison to cause its death, and then is blamed for prescribing “without advice.” This blame tends to cultivate the idea that a little poison is necessary. The mother, whose child is troublesome—a little unwell—fearing to trust to her own judgment, and

believing the child must have some of the stuff, sends for the family physician; he comes, gives the child something, which likely as not makes its sick; and in this way, he is enabled to make frequent calls, run up a bill against the parent, and perhaps leave the child—if it lives—not a whit better than when he first called. But his ends are answered; the child is kept along a while, and the doctor gets a large bill: and then the little sufferer is allowed to pass from his attendance to that of the mother, under the plea that it has got better by the doctor’s skill; when in fact it would not have been sick, had the doctor been kept away. We have heard of many children being “sacrificed through the folly or ignorance both of parents and nurses”—and many more by the wickedness of physicians—and think it the duty of publishers of papers, instead of recommending a work which gives directions how to administer poisons, to warn the public against both the work and the poisons too.

The following is the article to which we refer:

CAUTION TO PARENTS, APOTHECARIES, &c.—How many infants have been sacrificed through the folly or ignorance of both parents and nurses. We see in a late *Liverpool Mercury*, a notice of the death of an infant, caused by a small dose of paregoric. We cut the following valuable remarks relative to this case, from the *Liverpool paper*, and add, that all our experienced physicians censure, in the strongest terms, the reprehensible conduct of those parents and nurses who are in the practice of administering paregoric to their infants, *unless by the advice and direction of a physician*.—[*Mercantile Journal*.]

“The late Dr. Reece, in his valuable work, ‘The Medical Guide,’ (a work which no family or druggist should be without,) states the dose of paregoric for children from two to four years old, to be from fifteen to twenty drops. J. Cockburn, M. D., who, besides Mr. Bullock, was called in to see the dying child, stated the dose to be twenty drops for an infant of two or three years old. The ‘London Dispensatory and Pharmacopœia,’ (the standard work for preparing medicines) prescribes a similar dose. As many persons have an idea that paregoric is perfectly innocent, I beg to state that it is merely laudanum of a weaker kind, as will appear from the following recipe given for its preparation in the ‘London Pharmacopœia, published by the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Take of opium dried, 1 drachm; Camphor, 2 scruples; flowers of Benzoin, 1 drachm; spirit of wine, 1 pint; pure water, 1 pint. Digest fourteen days, and filter through paper.

“It appears, then, that each half ounce, or one table-spoonful, of paregoric, contains one grain of opium.

“Parents should never give any narcotic drugs, such as laudanum, paregoric, syrup of poppies, Godfrey’s Cordial, &c., to children, without first

ascertaining from the druggist or physician, the *proper dose*; and it will be advisable also, for all druggists to whom the lower classes generally apply for trifling quantities of medicine, to inquire for what purpose the article is wanted, give the proper directions, and, in most cases, to do as the very amiable and judicious coronor advised—fix a label on every vessel, bottle, or teacup, which may be sent for any of the aforesaid articles.

“Every means by which human life may be preserved from danger, should be rigidly employed, especially by parents and medical advisers.”

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE.—We should make it a principle to extend the hand of fellowship to every man who discharges faithfully his duties, and maintains good order—who manifests a deep interest in the welfare of society in general—whose deportment is upright, and whose mind is intelligent, without stopping to ascertain whether he swings a hammer or draws a thread. There is nothing so distant from all rule and natural claim as the reluctant, the backward sympathy—the forced smile—the checked conversation—the hesitating compliance—the “well off” are too apt to manifest to those a little down, with whom, in comparison of intellect and principles of virtue, they often sink into insignificance.

STRANGE APPETITE.—The London Medical Gazette contains a curious statement from H. H. Birt, Esq., a surgeon of Sussex, respecting a girl of weak intellect who was addicted to swallowing pins and needles. The girl came under the surgeon's care in July, 1829, before which time another surgeon had extracted 27 pins from the left mamma, and in the course of four months, Mr. Birt extracted 254 pins and needles (making in all 281) from almost every part of the left side of the body. The girl had been in the habit of swallowing pins and needles out of bravado, or from the bribe of sweetmeats when at school about thirteen years before.

NASAL POLYPUS.—The Western Journal of Medicine and Surgery states that Dr. Brice of Newark, (O.,) for more than thirty years a respectable practitioner of that place, has permanently cured three cases of polypus of the nostril by *blood root*. A decoction is made and applied to the root.

✍ We have received the *third* number of the “Maine Thomsonian Recorder,” Vol. III. It came to us in a new dress, and new form—and is greatly improved in appearance. The Editor will do us a favor by sending two copies in exchange for two of the Manual; as we should like to preserve one for binding.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A 'THOMSONIAN.—No. II.

I will now state one more fact touching my own health previous to having made use of the Thomsonian medicines, and then proceed with cases as they may occur to me. The reader is requested, however, to bear in mind the fact of my not being a physician, and will therefore make due allowance for all deficiencies in the reports; and also recollect that in many instances where I have been called upon for advice—not keeping a full supply of medicines on hand—the treatment may not have been in all cases *precisely* what a Thomsonian physician would have recommended: but I have always endeavored to be governed by the directions laid down in Dr. Thomson's “Guide to Health,” as nearly as circumstances would permit.

For eight or ten years preceding my conversion to Thomsonism, a summer did not pass away but that I was afflicted more or less severely with the complaint incident to the season; and not unfrequently was kept from my work two and three weeks together. Since using the Thomsonian remedies I have not been troubled with that complaint *twelve hours* at any one time; and have not even been attacked by it more than three or four times in six years. It is my candid belief that no person—except it be quite a young child, which renders it difficult to administer a sufficient quantity of medicine—need be troubled with the dysentery exceeding twenty-four hours, at farthest. A great error with many Thomsonians, in this disease, is, they are afraid of taking too much medicine, and let the disease get too rank a hold before they take decisive measures to effect a cure. When a person first feels this complaint coming on, let him commence taking composition, adding more cayenne to it, and follow it up until he feels well. It should be made strong, and half a cup full drunk every hour; taking spiced bitters two or three times a day. The disease will yield immediately to this course, if commenced in season.

In the summer of '36, Mr. H., with whom I boarded at Cambridge, Mass., was attacked about twelve o'clock at night with Cholera Morbus. At breakfast, his wife informed me of it, stating that he had been in great distress all the latter part of the night. I went immediately to his chamber, and found that he had been vomiting and purging almost incessantly for seven hours. He told me he was subject to this distressing disease about every year, and it was generally three or four

weeks before he recovered so as to attend to his business. He was now so weak that he could not rise from the bed without assistance. I stated to him that it was my opinion he could be speedily relieved, if he would consent to take some medicine which I had. He replied that he would take any thing that would help him. Having no medicine by me at that time except cayenne, I turned a cupful of boiling water to a heaping tea-spoonful of that, sweetened and took it to him. He had never taken any of the hot medicines, and when I informed what the cup contained, he shook his head and said he was almost afraid of it; but after a moment's consideration, took the cup and drank the contents, powder and all. I went down and ate my breakfast, and returned again to his room—found he had vomited once thoroughly, after taking the cayenne, but had not thrown that up. He said he felt like a new man, all the pain had left him, and he was inclined to sleep. I then went to my work, leaving word with his wife to send for me if he grew worse.

About eleven o'clock, who should come in where I was at work but the sick man himself! He said he felt as well as ever, with the exception of being rather weak. In the afternoon he went to work, and the next day was perfectly well.

In the fall of the same year, I went to New York, and there met a young man, who, nine months before, I left in perfect health; he was now a mere skeleton. He informed me that he had had a continued diarrhœa on him for five months—had been under the care of four or five of the most eminent physicians of that city, each of whom had expended all their skill, and a good share of poison, on him, without benefitting him in the least. They pronounced his a novel and unaccountable case—it was too much for their "science" to cope with. It was, truly, rather a singular case. His stomach had not been, apparently, the least disordered all this time—his appetite was good—felt no uneasiness at the stomach after eating—little or no pain in the bowels when on or off stool—and none of his food seemed to pass him undigested. And yet, there was a continual flux from the bowels—a wasting away of flesh, and consequently, great loss of strength. Some part of the time he was able to attend to his business, as it required but little bodily exercise.

At the time I first met him, he was under the medical care of Dr. Reece—had been his patient about a week. And what do you suppose, reader, this great man of science prescribed for his patient? Salts! yes, salts every morning. Can it be possible that a physician of such eminence as

Dr. Reece, could have expected to benefit a patient in his condition by such a prescription? Here it was the latter part of November—a patient already reduced to a skeleton—strength almost exhausted, and complaining continually of cold—and yet dosing every morning with salts! The doctor told him to follow this course for a week, and then call on him. He did so, and was ordered to continue the salts another week; and at the expiration of that time, was directed to continue still longer. I boarded at the same house with the patient, and marked—with pity for him, and contempt for the doctor—his rapid decline from day to day. I asked him what his physician expected to effect with salts? He replied, "the doctor says he must bring my system into a *certain state*, with salts, and then he shall prescribe something to act directly upon the disease." (Recollect, reader, the doctor had previously pronounced this case "unaccountable," and yet is going to "prescribe something to act directly upon the disease!") I told the young man that the "certain state" salts would bring him into, would be death! and that speedily. I endeavored to persuade him to go to the Thomsonian Infirmary, but he was certain that would kill him. I frightened him out of the idea, however, of taking more salts, and as I could not prevail upon him to take any Thomsonian medicine, made him promise me he would not take any thing but light nourishing food for a week; telling him he had better trust altogether to nature, than pursue his present course.

At the end of a week, he had gained some little strength, and felt satisfied that he was better for discontinuing the salts. I then explained to him what I considered to be his trouble. That his food digested, there could be no question, as his stomach was not disordered, neither did his evacuations show any thing like indigestion. Nor could I discover any indication that the *bile* was disordered so as not to be able to perform its duty of separating the nutritious portion of the food, after its passage into the intestines, from the other matter. The only reasonable conclusion at which I could arrive, was, that the *lacteals* (the little tubes which take up the *chyle*, or nutritive part of the food, after the separation) were *obstructed*, and did not take up sufficient *chyle* to sustain the system; nearly all passed off through the alimentary canal. I told him if this were the case, physic of any kind, more especially salts, would obstruct these little vessels still more, and shortly they would become wholly closed, and thereby cut off all means of nourishment to the system, and of course he must then die.

He replied that the case as I had stated it, appeared reasonable ; but yet he was afraid to try Thomson's remedies. I finally persuaded him to use cayenne freely on his food for one week—he did so, and his health so much improved that he was ready to take any of the medicine. He then commenced taking composition and spiced bitters, and in two weeks he was perfectly well.

For an endorsement of these facts, I would refer the reader to CYRUS THOMPSON, Sun office, N. Y. City.

As this was rather a remarkable case, Mr. Editor, I should be pleased to hear the opinion of some Thomsonian physician in regard to my ideas of the *cause* of the complaint.

For the Manual.

EFFECTS OF WATER ON THE TEETH.

MR. EDITOR:—Having been troubled much for some years by the accumulation of tartar (rust) on the teeth, I have been induced at various times to make trial of different articles recommended for the removal of it ; but have seldom, if ever, found them “ what they were cracked up to be.” However, I have been obliged to use something of the kind, quite frequently, in order to keep my teeth any way decent in appearance. I have once or twice concluded not to use any thing but water and a soft brush for cleansing the teeth, and after testing this course for some weeks, been obliged to abandon it as not answering the desired end ; because they would become so coated over with tartar, that I found it necessary to *scour* them quite often, to bring them into *grinning* order again.

About three months since, having used up the last of my tooth-powder, I neglected to get more until my teeth were almost wholly incased in tartar. About this time, I removed from the north part of the city to the south part, where we are supplied with aqueduct water. I have made use of nothing but the soft water and a brush, once or twice a day, for six or eight weeks, and my teeth are now more free from tartar than they have been at any time since my abode in this “city of notions.” I attribute the favorable change wholly to the soft water ; it may not be altogether occasioned by the mere application of the water to the teeth, but in part by its healthier influence on the stomach and system generally—as we make use of it for all culinary purposes.

As this may be but a solitary case, I will not urge it as an established fact ; but recommend it as an experiment worth trying by any individuals whose teeth may have “ caught a *tartar*.”

CANTON STREET.

Boston, Dec. 30, 1840.

For the Manual.

MIDWIFERY.

MR. EDITOR:—Having been for a number of years engaged in the business of midwifery, and having had the privilege of testing the virtues of the two systems of practice in cases of child-birth, I wish to give my feeble help to that which I consider the most in accordance with nature and humanity. I have seen many mothers languish and suffer under the mineral treatment ; but the treatment pursued by Thomsonians, has a different effect : it consists of rendering assistance to nature, and not forcing her operations. As an instance of this kind, I would state a case which recently came under my care. I was with Mrs. Sally Barnes, of this town, at her confinement ; she was treated according to the manner directed by Dr. Samuel Thomson, and was soon delivered of a fine daughter. The after-birth remaining behind, after recourse was had to such means as are usual in like cases, an enema was administered, and in less than five minutes it had the desired effect. I can truly say that the Thomsonian treatment in cases of midwifery, is far preferable to the old faculty practice.

MRS. MARY A. WISE,

Plymouth, Dec. 4. 1840.

SHORT BUT GOOD.—When a man owns himself to be in an error he does but tell you in other words that he is wiser than he was.

A man that does the best he can, does all that he should do.

If a man cannot find ease within himself, it is to little purpose to seek it elsewhere.

Choose the course of life which is the most excellent, and custom will render it the most delightful.

Be always at leisure to do good ; never make business an excuse to decline the offices of humanity.

Defer not charities till death ; he that does so, is liberal rather of another man's wealth than of his own.

In the morning, think what thou hast to do ; and at night, ask thyself what thou hast done.

Spend the day well, and thou wilt rejoice at night.

Avoid as much as you can the company of all vicious persons whatever ; for no vice is alone, and all are infectious.

There are few who know how to be idle and innocent. By doing nothing we learn to do ill.

AN EPITAPH.

Would you know what religion he had?

Be his character thus understood :—

A *dissenter* from all that is bad,

A *consenter* to all that is good.

"WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN!"

We might have been!—these are but common words,
And yet they make the sum of life's bewailing;
They are the echo of those finer chords,
Whose music life deplores when unavailing.
We might have been!

Alas! how different from what we are,
Had we but known the bitter path before us!
But feelings, hopes, and fancies, left afar,
What in the wide, bleak world, can e'er restore us?
WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN!

For the Manual.

CAUTION!—CAUTION!!

MR. EDITOR.—My ears are daily filled with complaints against individuals who falsely hold themselves out to the public as my agents, authorized to practice my System of Medicine, and who thereby impose, upon the honest and unsuspecting portion of the community, gross ignorance for medical skill, and worthless or deleterious preparations for genuine Thomsonian Medicines. The villany which thus robs the unfortunate of their money, without any valuable consideration, should meet the punishment that often overtakes another and less criminal class of offenders who obtain money by false pretences; and the daring wickedness which thus trifles, from mercenary considerations, with human life, deserves to be treated with the greatest severity known to our laws. To protect the public from the gross imposition, of which so many are made the victims, the Thomsonian Manual will contain a standing list of my agents,—all others who use my name, or profess to have my medicines, are impostors, and I warn my fellow-citizens to beware of them.

I deem it my duty to put the public on their guard, in a particular manner, against the following persons, who are using my name, directly or indirectly, but who either never had any authority from me, or have been dismissed from my confidence for unfaithfulness. Neither myself, nor my system of practice, is to be held responsible for their conduct.

Caleb Sandborn, Berwick, Me.
John B. Healey, Augusta, Me.
Benjamin Plummer, Bangor, Me.
Robert Mowe, Eastport, Me.
Horatio N. Palmer, Belfast, Me.
Bayley Pierce, " "
E. G. Gould, " "
S. Sewall, Scarboro', Me.
Lewis Watson, Bangor, "
Mr. Jacobs, " "
Mr. Burke, Calais, "
Joshua Taylor, Norridgewock, Me.
Colby & Smith, Gardiner, Me.
Hilton, Frost & Mason, Portland, Me.,
Mr. Jones, St. Stephens, Me.
Mr. Wilcox, Bennington, Vt.
A. H. Platt, Rahway, N. J.
Hosea Winchester; Wm. Johnson; Eliakim Darling; Hale & Osgood; and Elias Smith, all of Boston, Mass.
William Clark, Lowell, Mass.
Ralph Rugg, West Amesbury, Mass.
Martin Bryant, North Adams, Mass.
Samuel Sprague, Lowell, Mass.
— Ames, Ipswich, Mass.

John Cheever, Charlestown, Mass.
Nathan Wright & Son, Cambridgeport, Mass.
Samuel Emmons, Waltham, Mass.
Thomas Lapham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
Mr. Frisby, Mr. Sweet, and P. Lapham, New York.
J. J. Gates, Rochester, N. Y.
J. A. Brown, Providence, R. I.
— Farewell, Woonsocket, R. I.
John Sandborn, Somersworth, Great Falls, N. H.
Michael L. Priest, Durham, N. H.
Philbrook & Marshall, Nashua, N. H.
H. Jameson, " "
O. N. Chase, " "
P. D. Badger, Newport, N. H.
Aaron Mudge, Portsmouth, N. H.
Mr. Kenedy, " "
John White, " "
Mr. Leighton, " "
B. W. Sperry, New Haven, Conn.
I. J. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.
Rev. Dr. Robinson, Lebanon, Conn.
A. E. Sperry, New London, "
Geo. W. Rubey, Norwalk, "
A. S. Pelton, Clinton, "
G. G. Field, North Madison, "
Wm. Allen, Jun. New Britain, "
George Pease, Guilford, "
Aaron Fenn, Roxbury, "
G. W. Riley, Goshen, "
E. Larrabee, Baltimore, Md.

The following individuals, now holding agencies from me, have shown themselves unworthy of my confidence; I therefore revoke their agencies, and hold myself no longer responsible for any of their acts.

MASSACHUSETTS.—James Osgood, who keeps with Daniel Lee Hale, at Blackstone and Endicott Streets, *Boston*. John A. Andrews, *Worcester*. John Locke, *Boston*. Alexander Scamel, *Milford*. Asa McCollum, *Leicester*. George Howe, *Marlboro'*. John Edson, *Bridgewater*. Phebe H. Hale, *Rowley*. Sumner Jacobs, *Springfield*, (Chickopee Falls.) Calvin Sanderson, *Springfield*. Jonas W. Chapman, *Boston*.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—George E. Morrill, *South Ware*. S. W. King, *New Ipswich*.

MAINE.—Nicholas Smith, *Hallowell*. O. Wright, *Livermore*. S. W. Elliot, *Industry*. Jonathan Marden, *Paris*. John Shaw, *Exeter*.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Frederick Plummer, J. W. Comfort, Aaron Comfort, *Philadelphia*.

VERMONT.—Joseph Wright, *Montpelier*.

NEW YORK.—Oliver O. Cook, *White Creek*.

Some of the above named individuals make use of vegetable poisons, and I consider it my duty to put the public upon their guard, respecting them. Those who assume my name to deceive and impose upon the people, are not entitled, either in law or justice, to any recompense for their services. I would remark, also, that the above named Winchester has been travelling in the West, and Johnson, his partner, in the East, for the purpose of vending their spurious medicines. A word to the wise, &c.

I also understand that the above-named Hale has been round the country selling medicine; but he has no authority for so doing from me. I have no travelling agents.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Boston, June 15, 1840.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

Acton, Robert Chaffee
Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
Ashby, F A Kendall
Andover, John Harding
Andover, (Ballard Vale) Aaron P. Holt.
Ashby, Thomas Gibson
Colerain, Oscar J Martin
" Calvin W. Shattuck
Chesterfield, Amos Bisby
" Varnum Nichols
Danvers, Amos Trask, and J R Pattin
" Joseph Shaw Jr
Essex, Eli F Burnham
" E. B. Putnam.
Eastham, Scotter Cobb
Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
" M. O. Bradford
Gloucester, Samuel Friend
" Gideon Lane
" David E. Saunders
Harvard, J. Hosmer
Leveret, Myron Ashley
Lowell, Daniel Hutchinson
" Perkins H Dow
Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney
Milford, S Sumner
Middleborough, Rev A Briggs
South Andover, Jacob Jenkins
North Reading, Eben'r Eaton
" Thomas Abbot
North Andover, L. T. Presson
New Bedford, Prince Weeks
" " G. Nye
Newburyport, G W Goodwin
" J Blood
Orleans, Vickery Sparrow
Plymouth, Samuel Barnes
Reading, N K J Vinal
Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
Salem, R W Merrill
Springfield, Sirguy Noble
Sturbridge, D Mason
Stoughton, Luther Belcher
Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh
Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
Walpole, Williard Lewis
Waltham, J Shepley
Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
Camden, Thomas Annis
" William Merriam
East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon
Eastport, John Shackford
Frankfort, George Kimball
Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
Lincolntonville Centre, Francis Fletcher
Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster
" M. M. Miles
Machias, Wm. Smith

Norway, Jotham Goodnow
Portland, Daniel Sawyer
" Rev. C. D. Ffrench
Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
Ripley, Samuel A. Todd
Searsmont, Randlet Ness
Thomaston, Horatio Alden
Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, A. Watkins, and Bethuel Keith
Exeter, S. J. Perkins
Kingston, John Dearborn,
Langdon, Royal Shunway
Meredith, William M. Ladd
Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
New Hampton, James Jackson
Nashua, Jesse Whitney
Pembroke, Moses Martin
Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Bennington, George Boardman Jr
Chelsea, Benj. Grant
Charlemont, David Todd
Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
Dover, Daniel Leonard
East Randolph, P. Smith
Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
Halifax, S. Plumb
" Eben'r M. Clark
" Alvah Brooks
" John Reid, Esq.
Green River, Sam'l Cutting
Guilford, Henry Packer
" Philip Martin
Londonderry, J. Arnold
Randolph, Jehiel Smith
Woodstock, Nathan Cushing
" Jacob Holt
Whitingham, W. Goodnow
" Reuben Green
" Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson
New Haven, George Munson
Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson
New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev-
enth St., near 5th Avenue
Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
Troy, Ira Wood
Westport, J. K. French

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Wilmington, Wm. T. Gerts

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

New Book.**TO THE THOMSONIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

The public mind has been agitated for two and a half years past, in relation to a revision of my *Narrative and New Guide to Health*, by Morris Mattson, who has had said work in hand for said purpose.

After the original time for said work to be completed had expired, I added seven months more of time, in order that no reasonable excuse could be offered, on his part, for not having the work complete. I also loaned Mr. Mattson \$1150 in cash, so that there should be no deficiency on my part, so far as money could facilitate the work. On the 1st of June, the time appointed for the completion of the work, the *Narrative* had not been commenced; the plates were not finished; and what was read of the description of the remedies, was defective. I therefore gave up the idea of Mr. Mattson being competent to put the work in complete order for publication, and concluded he did not design to do the work as agreed upon. I also found that the wants of the people were, that the Book should be written or compiled by a PRACTICAL man, *Mr. Mattson not being such.*

I therefore dissolved all connection with said Mattson, relative to the publication of said work; and shall now go on with it myself, assisted by my son, Dr. John Thomson, of the City of Albany, N. Y., and am in hopes to produce a work during the coming season, that will meet the approbation of the long disappointed community.

No pains will be spared to furnish a work that will meet the wants of the public. The *Narrative* will be embellished with a new Portrait of the Author, on steel—and the *New Guide* will contain numerous engravings of the principal plants used in the Thomsonian System of Practice, together with new remedies.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

From the Boston True Thomsonian of Sept. 15. 1840.

"We are sometimes asked whether Dr. M. [Mattson] intends to publish his work, on the supposition that Dr. Thomson's copy right is good for nothing. Dr. M. informs us that he does not know whether the copy right is good, or good for nothing. He does not intend to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson's book, and therefore will not violate his copy right, admitting its validity."

N. B. I am willing Mr. Mattson should publish his work, on the above condition—that is, if he does not copy from my book.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthen-

ing plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of 'Thomsonism'; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, payable in advance. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, free of postage, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, FEBRUARY 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 6.

FRIENDSHIP.

Talk not to me of friendship ;

There is not a man, who walks the solid earth,
Or sails upon the varying, visaged ocean,
Who is my friend. And why is this ?
Because I've not the title-deeds to broad
And fertile lands, or heaps of hoarded gold.
Because I've not the means to load my shelves
With costly merchandise, trick'd out to catch
The eye of fortune's fools, who flutter round
The shrine of fashion.
Because I cannot crouch, and fawn, and truckle—
Because I will not sacrifice my freedom,
To the vain codes of empty ceremony—
Because I cannot hide the strong contempt
That curls my lip, or warp it to a smile of flattery
When sickening fools have prattled
Over their mere pert-prating nothingness.

Away with friendship then,

It only clings to those who need it not,
But leaves the wretch to bear the ills of life
“Unpitied and alone.”

THE SEDENTARY.

Though nothing can be more contrary to the nature of man than a sedentary life, yet this class comprehends by far the greater part of the species. Almost the whole female world, and in manufacturing countries, the major part of the males, may be reckoned sedentary.

Agriculture, the first and most healthful of all employments, is now followed by few who are able to carry on any other business. But those who imagine that the culture of the earth is not sufficient to employ all its inhabitants, are greatly mistaken. An ancient Roman, we are told, could maintain his family from the produce of one acre of ground. So might a modern Briton, if he would be contented to live like a Roman. This shows what an immense increase of inhabitants Britain might admit of, and yet all of them live by the culture of the ground.

Agriculture is the great source of domestic riches. Where it is neglected, whatever wealth may be imported from abroad, poverty and misery will abound at home. Such is, and ever will be, the fluctuating state of trade and manufactures, that thousands of people may be in full employment to-day, and in beggary to-morrow. This can never happen to those who cultivate the ground. They can eat the fruit of their labor, and always by industry obtain, at least, the necessities of life.

VOL. VII,—NO. VI.

Though sedentary employments are necessary, yet there seems to be no reason why any person should be confined for life to these alone. Were such employments intermixed with the more active and laborious, they would never do hurt. It is constant confinement that ruins the health. A man may not be hurt by sitting five or six hours a day ; but if he is obliged to sit ten or twelve, he will soon become diseased.

But it is not the want of exercise alone, which hurts sedentary people ; they likewise suffer from the confined air which they breathe. It is very common to see ten or a dozen tailors, or stay makers, for example, crowded into one small apartment, where there is hardly room for one person to breathe freely. In this situation they generally continue for many hours at a time, often with the addition of several candles, which tend likewise to waste the air, and render it less fit for respiration. Air that is breathed repeatedly, becomes unfit for expanding the lungs. This is one cause of the phthisical coughs, and other complaints of the breast, so incident to sedentary artificers.

Even the perspiration from a great number of persons pent up together, renders the air unwholesome. The danger from this quarter will be greatly increased, if any one of them happens to have bad lungs, or to be otherwise diseased. Those who sit near him, being forced to breathe the same air, can hardly fail to be infected. It would be a rare thing, however, to find a dozen of sedentary people all in good health. The danger of crowding them together must therefore be evident to every one.

Many of those who follow sedentary employments are constantly in a bending posture, as shoe-makers, taylors, cutlers, &c. Such a situation is extremely hurtful. A bending posture obstructs all the vital motions, and of course must destroy the health. Accordingly we find such artificers generally complaining of indigestions, flatulencies, headaches, pains of the breast, &c.

The aliment, in sedentary people, instead of being pushed forwards by an erect posture, and the action of the muscles, is in a manner confined in the bowels. Hence indigestion, costiveness, wind, and other hypochondrical affections, are the constant companions of the sedentary. Indeed, none of the secretions can be duly performed where exercise is wanting ; and when the matter which ought to be discharged

in this way is retained too long in the body, it must have bad effects, as it is again taken up into the mass of humors.

A bending posture is likewise hurtful to the lungs. When this organ is compressed, the air cannot have free access in all its parts, so as to expand them properly. Hence tubercles, adhesions, &c. are formed, which often end in consumptions. Besides, the proper action of the lungs being absolutely necessary for making good blood, when the organ fails, the humors soon become universally depraved, and the whole constitution goes to wreck.

Sedentary artificers are not only hurt by pressure on the bowels, and also on the inferior extremities, which obstructs the circulation in these parts, and renders them weak and feeble. Thus tailors, shoemakers, &c. frequently lose the use of their legs altogether; besides the blood and humors are, by stagnation, vitiated, and the perspiration is obstructed; from whence proceed the scab, ulcerous sores, foul blotches, and other cutaneous diseases so common among artificers.

A bad figure of body is a very common consequence of close application to sedentary employments. The spine, for example, by being continually bent, puts on a crooked shape, and generally remains so ever after. But a bad figure of body has already been observed to be hurtful to health, as the vital functions are thereby impeded.

A sedentary life seldom fails to occasion an universal relaxation of the solids. This is the great source from whence most of the diseases of sedentary people flow. The scorfula, consumption, hysterics, and nervous diseases, now so common, were very little known in this country before sedentary artificers became so numerous; and they are very little known still among such of our people as follow active employment without doors, though in great towns at least two thirds of the inhabitants are afflicted with them.

It is very difficult to remedy those evils, because many who have been accustomed to a sedentary life, like ricketty children, lose all inclination for exercise; we shall, however, throw out a few hints with respect to the most likely means for preserving the health of this useful set of people, which some of them, we hope, will be wise enough to take.

It has been already observed, that sedentary artificers are often hurt by their bending posture. They ought therefore to stand or sit as erect as the nature of their employments will permit. They should likewise change their posture frequently, and should never sit too long at a time, but leave off work, and walk, ride, run, or do anything that will promote the vital functions.

Sedentary artificers are generally allowed too little time for exercise; yet short as it is, they seldom employ it properly. A journeyman tailor or weaver, for example, instead of walking abroad for fresh air, at his hours of leisure, chuses often to spend them in a public house, or in playing at some sedentary game, by which he generally loses both his time and his money.

All sedentary artificers ought to pay strict regard to cleanliness. Both their situation and occupations render this highly necessary. Nothing would contribute more to preserve their health, than a strict attention to it; and such of them as neglect it, not only run the hazard of losing health, but of becoming a nuisance to their neighbors.

Sedentary people ought to avoid food that is windy or hard of digestion, and should pay the strictest regard to sobriety. A person who works hard without doors will soon throw off a debauch; but one who sits has by no means an equal chance. Hence it often happens, that sedentary people are seized with fevers after hard drinking. When such persons feel their spirits low, instead of running to the tavern for relief, they should ride or walk in the field. This would remove the complaint more effectually than strong liquor, and would never hurt the constitution.

Instead of multiplying rules for preserving the health of the sedentary, we shall recommend to them the following general plan, viz: That every person who follows a sedentary employment should cultivate a piece of ground with his own hands. This he might dig, plant, sow, and weed at leisure hours, so as to make it both an exercise and amusement, while it produced many of the necessaries of life. After working an hour in a garden, a man will return with more keenness to his employment within doors, than if he had been all the while idle.

Laboring the ground is every way conducive to health. It not only gives exercise to every part of the body, but the very smell of the earth and fresh herbs revives and cheers the spirits, whilst the perpetual prospect of something coming to maturity, delights and entertains the mind. We are so formed as to be always pleased with something in prospect, however distant or however trivial. Hence the happiness that most men feel in planting, sowing, building, &c. These seem to have been the chief employments of the early ages; and, when kings and conquerors cultivated the ground, there is reason to believe that they knew as well wherein true happiness consisted as we do.

It may seem romantic to recommend gardening to manufacturers in great towns; but observation proves that the plan is very practicable. In the town of Sheffield, in Yorkshire, (Eng.)

where the great iron manufacture is carried on, there is hardly a journeyman cutler who does not possess a piece of ground, which he cultivates as a garden. This practice has many salutary effects. It not only induces these people to take exercise without doors, but also to eat many greens, roots, &c., of their own growth, which they would never think of purchasing. There can be no reason why manufacturers in any other town of Great Britain should not follow the same plan. It is indeed to be regretted, that in such a place as London a plan of this kind is not practicable; yet even there, sedentary artificers may find opportunities of taking air and exercise, if they choose to embrace them.

Mechanics are too much inclined to crowd into great towns. The situation may have some advantages, but it has likewise many disadvantages. All mechanics who live in the country have it in their power to cultivate a piece of ground; which indeed most of them do. This not only gives them exercise, but enables them to live more comfortably. So far at least as my observation extends, mechanics who live in the country are far more happy than those in great towns. They enjoy better health, live in greater affluence, and seldom fail to rear a healthy and numerous offspring.

In a word, exercise without doors, in one shape or another, is absolutely necessary to health. Those who neglect it, though they may for a while drag out life, can hardly be said to enjoy it. Weak and effeminate, they languish for a few years, and soon drop into an untimely grave.—[Dr. Buchan.

AN ADDRESS,

Delivered at Poughkeepsie, (N. Y.) in October last, by CHARLES F. GRAY.

Mr. President and Fellow Citizens:—

When I appear before so respectable an audience as the one which I am now about to address, it produces emotions within my own bosom that is out of the power of my tongue to describe; and especially so, as I feel myself incompetent to do justice to so important a subject as that of which I am about to speak. When I see before me those who have spent their time and employed their talents for the benefit of their fellow men, until their heads have become "silvered o'er with age," minding neither privations nor pain on their own part, and surmounting the almost insurmountable obstacles of Popular Depravity, it has kindled a flame within my own breast which can never be quenched until that whole fraternity of Scientific Abusers shall bow to the glorious progress of our onward cause.

Who is there in this enlightened land, who is a friend to humanity, that can refrain to drop a tear of sympathy for those of our fellow men who have been torn, as it were, from their relations and friends by the hands of the spoiler, and have been numbered with the dead—victims of the most popular as well as most degraded practice.

What is mankind, that they should be thus content to suffer, while a beneficent Providence has strewn remedies sufficient around us to allay and cure all the ills to which our mortal parts are subject.

Years have passed, and the regular practice of medicine, like a roaring Vesuvius, has rolled down her tornadoes of mineral poison upon the inhabitants of the earth, making slaughter of thousands of unhappy beings who were seized by its iron grasp, until nation after nation was cursed with its man-killing progress. Yes—and America too, that home for the oppressed and persecuted of all nations, did, at the commencement of her liberties, welcome to her embrace that degraded and deceitful practice, which, like a serpent, conceals her poison until you receive it from her fangs. Almighty God! what is the doom of her fellow men?

That dark cloud of Popular Superstition, which has long overshadowed our own beloved country, has sunk its myriads into a premature grave. And, sir, could that black catalogue of names be called over, and the victims of the Apothecary Practice but rise from their graves, and stand before you within these walls, it would rend the human heart asunder. Let the friends of the old school system of medicine call me by what epithet they please, whether quack or enthusiast, these are facts, undeniable: and if they are never proved to be so in time, they will be upon the records of eternity.

How strange it is, that an enlightened community can be lulled to sleep by a siren song, until they shall at last find themselves embarked in a chariot of Death, that is thundering to the grave.

Let the enemies to this health-restoring system of Samuel Thomson boast of their sophistry, their Latin and their Greek—to use the language of Scripture) "The words of their mouth are foolishness, and the end of their talk is mischievous madness." Where? tell me where, in the universe of God, did there ever exist any thing that was the cause of so many dying groans as this Greek and Latin practice of medicine? None can tell. No Egyptian plague, nor famine and pestilence, nor even Rome's slaughtered millions, nor all combined, can equal the list.

Friends, do you call me too severe? Then go with me to my native place, and there, in a

lonely church-yard, view the dismal tombs of NINE of my brothers and sisters—yes, and a father too, as dear to me as any earthly tie can be, who undoubtedly might have been a living father yet, had it not been for improper treatment. Do you call me too severe, friends?

Could I but paint to this respectable audience the anguish that the practice has caused in an orphan's heart, it might cause the terrestrial angels to bedew their cheeks with tears.

Go where you will, throughout the length and breadth of this wide extended land—or were you even to circumnavigate the globe and traverse its hill-tops and its glens, visiting the most populous city and the most retired cottage of the forest—wherever you find the existence of this direful practice, there you will also find its effects, which are disease and death.

That darkened cloud of Death, which has long since risen, and, like a simoon blast, came rolling and tumbling onward, and still onward, from its labyrinths of pretended knowledge; and, as it moved on, its thunderings broke louder upon the ear, until the world was overshadowed in its misty darkness, and thousands who inhaled its poisonous atmosphere sank to their tombs.

Who of us in this assembly can bear to think that there are any of the human family whose hearts have become so hard that, for the purpose of filling their long silken purses with glittering gold, they can enter the chamber of death and view the dying man struggling under the effects of medical poison, administered too by their own hands, and never heed his dying groans? But strange as it may seem, I sincerely believe it to be undeniably true.

Fellow citizens, what must be the feelings of that guilty practitioner, as he enters the sick man's chamber, and draws from his veins that very blood which he needs to support his decaying nature? and then, in the face and eyes of an intelligent community, open his bag of mineral poison and administer a portion of its contents to the declining man, who already stands upon the brink of the grave; and thus continue on, day after day and week after week, until the dying patient shall raise his trembling hands and fix his deathly eyes upon the doctor's face, as if he wished to say—"O man! soon thou wilt make my distracted wife a widow, and my weeping children fatherless—who, by thine improper treatment, will be obliged, forsaken, to roam throughout this wide extended world, with naught but a mother's frail advice, and even without a father's protecting care. Stop, O stop, thy murderous career! O, thou Supreme Judge! how canst thou withstay thine eternal vengeance?"

My friends, although I am young and inex-

perienced, I might as well undertake to bind the ocean with a cobweb, or stop the sun in its meridian splendor, as attempt to describe to you my feelings on this most important subject. My heart is too full to contain them. But when I look about me, and see some who are my fathers in experience, and who are better qualified than your unworthy speaker to do the subject justice, I am ready to exclaim—"Could I but sit at your feet and hear your counsels, it would be all that my heart could desire."

But, fellow citizens, I have a duty to perform; for when I see upon my right hand and upon my left, the effects of this direful practice, that goes about "like a roaring lion, seeking whom it may devour," and viewing the young and the old, dropping into an untimely grave, it has made such a salutary impression upon my mind, that naught but the endless ages of eternity can erase it from my memory.

Fellow citizens, considering what need there is for our services, can we remain dormant and inactive? Can we acquire the means of effectual resistance by lying supinely upon our backs and hugging their delusive phantoms of hope, until that poisoning fraternity shall have bound us with their chains?

Can we see our friends who strive to promote the welfare of their fellow men, and labor to convert disease into health, and sorrow into happiness, obliged by the scientific poisoners to suffer under the weight of heavy galling, iron fetters, and forced to recline upon their beds of straw, in dark and dismal dungeons, without making one long and mighty effort to dispel that black and death-like spirit which has long had in its possession the favor of the public mind? God forbid!

Behold the enemies of man, as they hoard up their bags of glittering gold, some of which they have taken from the pockets of their fellow beings who are enduring all the anxieties of pinching want and the gnawings of hunger, and with the same, they are glutting themselves upon the ramparts of their country's wealth. These are they who boast of their scientific attainments; but these are none other than they, who like midnight wanderers descend to the deep and rocky caves of the earth, in pursuit of POISON, which, I was about to say, will kill the soul.

But, fellow citizens, although there has been naught but darkness and blackness in the medical world for ages that is past, and that darkness even exceeding a moonless midnight, still I can congratulate you at this time upon the appearance of a glorious star, which arose from yonder New England's fertile fields, with all the attributes of a benefactor, and casting its healing and refulgent rays (which are ad infin-

itum) upon a wretched and benighted world. Let ceaseless praises be ascribed to our favorite Thomson, who is the founder of our glorious and undying practice.

Look at its effects upon the different ages of man—that individual whose head is whitened for the grave, by resorting to the Thomsonian system, will retain his wonted vigor and firmness until old age shall call him from time, which he leaves without a groan or murmur.

That youth, too, who has long since worn a death-like paleness upon her countenance, by the use of the Thomsonian remedies has again assumed her youthful beauty; and from thence continues to strew laurels in the path of her benefactor.

But although the Thomsonian practice of medicine has done all this, and thousands are wondering at its unqualified virtues, as yet it has not yet reached its meridian splendor. But I am thankful to my Maker that the day is now far dawning when millions of untainted voices, that have been saved by its virtues from the yawning grave, will make the earth echo with anthems in its praise, until, like the tree of liberty that pierces the clouds of heaven, it shall become the wonder and admiration of the world.

Then let us buckle on the helmet of defence for one grand and mighty conflict, calling upon the name of that Being, who sees and is not seen, to strengthen our arms and fire our souls with ardor—being determined never to give up the contest until we remove those foul planets which have so long held the reigns of Medical Government, and place in their stead the brilliant star of New England.—[Pough. Thom.

[From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.]

MEDICINE GOOD FOR ANIMALS.

On introducing the Thomsonian practice into our family, we had an idea that what was good for man as medicine, would also be good for animals. Being fully impressed that there was nothing erroneous in entertaining the belief, we gave it a trial on a dog, which apparently was laboring under the last stage of the distemper. Indeed, we remarked at the time that it was not reasonable to expect success, owing to the advanced stage of the disease the animal at this time was laboring under, yet we concluded, nevertheless, to try the effects of capsicum and lobelia. The pepper was administered by introducing it into meat by means of slitting it, and carefully avoiding the possibility of the animal detecting it. By this plan we found no difficulty in giving pepper, as animals generally are fond of meat. So we commenced by giving food and medicine at the same time, our object being, if possible, to raise an action by

the influence of cayenne. Knowing the cold state in which the animal was at the time, we felt confident that it would be the height of folly to administer lobelia before the exhibition of cayenne. Finding the food and medicine plan to operate to our satisfaction, we commenced with lobelia.

A few remarks may not be amiss here. The animal being remarkably fond of molasses, sweet cakes, candies, &c., we thought no difficulty would be presented in carrying our plan into effect—so we obtained some very thick sugar-house molasses, in which we introduced three tea-spoonsful of the green emetic, (lobelia,) which we placed on the floor and called him to it—but he drew himself, after smelling a moment, from it, and we were obliged to administer it by force. It being in molasses, however, he licked his chops after every introduction of this valuable medicine.

Now for the sequel. The medicine operated as it usually does on human beings, and the animal got well, without experiencing the effects of debility produced by the employment of poisons, and is now a valuable animal of his kind, and can eat more pepper candy in one hour than any human being we ever came across, can in forty-eight hours.

We intend to give another case similar to the above. We see no reason why our care should not be extended to the animal creation. How many useful and valuable animals die for want of proper knowledge by their owners, that might otherwise be preserved from disease and death. We hope no one will be backward in communicating such facts as he may be in possession of in regard to the treatment of animals.

ONE OF THE GIANTS.—Some workmen, digging a new pit near Amlwich, Cheshire, discovered within three feet of the surface, a stone urn, on opening which they found a human skeleton, in a high state of preservation, measuring the extraordinary length of seven feet six inches. The skeleton throughout was quite proportional to its length and in a very perfect condition.—The urn appears to have been made from the Aberdovy lime-stone, and had the appearance of being very much corroded by time. It bears no inscription to throw on its history any rays of information to gratify the enquiries of the curious respecting the gigantic “remnant of departed years.” From the rude nature of this urn or coffin, it seems probable that the body had been first laid in the grave, and lime-stones placed around its sides and on the top only, which from the length of time they had laid under the ground, had become connected together.—[English paper.

MANHOOD.

BY ROBERT BURNS.

Is there, for honest poverty,
That hangs his head, and all that?
The coward slave, we pass him by,
We dare be poor, for all that;
For all that, and all that,
Our toil's obscure, and all that,
The rank is but the guinea's stamp,
The man's the gold, for all that.

What though on homely fare we dine,
Wear hoddens gray, and all that?
Give fools their silks, and knaves their wine,
A man's a man for all that;
For all that, and all that,
Their tinsel show, and all that;
The honest man, though e'er so poor,
Is king of men for all that.

Ye see yon fellow call'd a lord,
Who struts and stares, and all that;
Though hundreds worship at his word,
He's but a dunce for all that;
For all that, and all that,
His riband, star, and all that;
The man of independent mind
He looks and laughs at all that.

A prince can make a belted knight,
A marquis, duke, and all that;
But an honest man's above his might,
Good faith has he for all that;
For all that, and all that,
Their dignities, and all that;
The pith of sense and pride of worth
Are higher ranks than all that.

Then let us pray that come it may,
As come it will, for all that,
That sense and worth, o'er all the earth,
May bear the palm, and all that;
For all that, and all that,
It's coming yet, for all that,
That man to man, the world all o'er,
Shall brothers be for all that.

BURYING ALIVE.

The diseases in which a partial momentary suspension of life most often manifest itself, are Asphyxia, Hysterics, Lethargy, Hypochondria, Convulsions, Syncope, Catalepsia, excessive loss of blood, Tetanus, Apoplexy, Epilepsy, and Ecstasy.

Among the many cases which have been recorded, the following are particularly striking:—Chancellor Bacon relates that Dr. Scott, nicknamed the *subtle*, was buried alive at Cologne, and that recovering from his apparent death, he gnawed his hands and broke his head in the tomb.

At Toulouse, a lady having been buried in the church of the Capuchin Friars, with a diamond ring on her finger, a servant entered the vault, to steal the ring, and as the finger was

swelled, and the ring could not come off, he began cutting the finger; on hearing a loud shriek from the lady the thief fell senseless. At the time of morning prayers, the monks, having heard some groans, found the lady alive, and the servant dead. Thus death had his prey; there was but a change of victims.

A street porter in Paris, having apparently died at the Hotel Dieu, was carried with the other dead into the same grave; recovering his senses towards 11 o'clock at night, he tore open his winding sheet, made his way to his house, knocked at the door, which was not opened to him without some difficulty, and took new possession of his lodgings.

In 1756, a woman in Paris, was thought to be dead, and the body put on some straw, with a taper at the feet; some young men who sat round the corpse, in a frolic overturned the taper; this set the straw on fire. The woman, whose body the flames now reached, uttered a piercing shriek. Timely assistance was rendered, and she so well recovered, that after her resurrection, she became the mother of several children.

On the 21st of November, 1763, Abbe Prevot, well known for his literary productions, was taken with an apoplectic fit, as he was travelling through the forest of Chantilly. Being supposed dead, he was carried to the house of the mayor of the village, and the magistrate ordered a post-mortem examination to be commenced. A shriek uttered by the unfortunate man, proved that he was alive. He expired under the scalpel.

Dr. Davaux, a surgeon of St. Come Hospital, in Paris, had a maid-servant who had three times been carried to the burial. She did not recover her senses the last time, till they were lowering the coffin into the grave. That woman having died anew, the body was kept for six days, lest they should have to carry her a fourth time.

A Mr. Rousseau, of Rouen, had married a young lady of fourteen, whom he left in perfect health at his starting on a short journey. After a few days he heard that unless he returned immediately he would find his wife buried.—On reaching home he saw the funeral ready.—In all the agony of grief, he had the coffin removed to his room and unscrewed. He placed the body on a bed, and ordered twenty-five incisions to be made into it. At the twenty-sixth, probably deeper than the others, the body exclaimed, "How severely you hurt me!" Medical assistance was immediately given. The lady had afterward twenty-five children.

The wife of M. Duhamel, a celebrated lawyer, having been supposed dead twenty-four hours, the body was placed on a table for the purpose of preparing it for burial. Her husband

strongly opposed it, not believing her dead; but in a state of suspended animation. To ascertain it, and knowing that she was very fond of the cymbal, and the tunes which cymbal-players sing, he called for one. Upon hearing the instrument and voice, the body recovered motion and speech. She survived her apparent death forty years.

Andre Vesale, first physician to Charles V., and Philip II., after attending a Spanish grandee, thought him dead. Having obtained leave to examine the body, he had scarcely thrust the bistoury into it, and opened the chest, when he perceived that the heart pulsated. The relatives of the deceased prosecuted him as guilty of murder, the inquisitor as guilty of profaneness. Through the intercession of the king, he obtained to be merely condemned to a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

In the sitting of the Royal Academy of Medicine, on the 10th of May, 1827, M. Cautour-nelle read a paper on the danger of hasty inhumations. This led to a discussion, in which M. Desgennettes stated that he had heard from N. Thouret, who had superintended the removal of the human remains of the cemetery and the charnel house *des innocens*, that many of the skeletons had been found in positions showing that the individuals had moved after their inhumation.—Mr. Thouret had been so much struck with this, that he had inserted in his will an article relating to his own interment.

BROTHER JONATHAN'S WIFE'S ADVICE TO HER DAUGHTER ON THE DAY OF HER MARRIAGE.—Now, Polly, as you are about to leave us, a few words seem appropriate to the occasion. Although I regret the separation, yet I am pleased that your prospects are good. You must not think that all before you are Elysian fields.—Toil, care and trouble are the companions of frail human nature. Old connections will be dissolved by distance, time and death. New ones are formed. Every thing pertaining to this life is on the change.

A well cultivated mind united with a pleasant, easy disposition, is the greatest accomplishment in a lady. I have endeavored from the first to the present time to bring you up in such a manner as to form you for your future usefulness in society. Woman was never made merely to see and be seen; but to fill an important space in the great chain in nature, planned and formed by the Almighty Parent of the universe. You have been educated in habits of industry, frugality, economy and neatness, and in these you have not disappointed me.

It is for the man to provide, and for the wife to care and see that every thing within her cir-

cle of movement, is done in order and season; therefore let method and order be considered important. A place for every thing and every thing in time, are good family mottoes.

A thorough knowledge of every kind of business appropriate to the kitchen is indispensable, for without such knowledge a lady is incapable of the management of her own business, and is liable to imposition by her servants every day. But in those things you have been instructed.

You will be mistress of your own house, and observe the rules in which you have been educated. You will endeavor above all things to make your fireside the most agreeable place for the man of your choice. Pleasantry and a happy disposition will ever be considered necessary to this important end—but a foolish fondness is disgusting to all. Let reason and common sense ever guide—these, aided by a pleasant, friendly disposition, render life happy; and without these it is not desirable. Remember your cousin Eliza. She married with the highest prospects; but, from a petulant, peevish, complaining disposition and negligence, everything went wrong, and her home became a place of disquietude to her husband. To avoid this, he sought a place to pass away vacant time, where he associated with those more wicked than himself; he contracted the habit of intemperance, and all was lost—and poor Eliza was thrown on the charity of her friends.

Be pleasant and obliging to your neighbors—ready to grant assistance when necessary. Be careful of their characters, and do not readily believe an ill report. Throw the mantle of charity over their feelings, knowing that we are human and liable to err. Abhor a tattler, and give no place to the reports of such. However strong a provocation may be, never contend for the last word.

Let your Bible show that it is used. Give no place to novels in your library. Let history, biography and travels be read, when time and opportunity admit—without interfering with the important duties of the family. Be not ignorant of the events for the time being; therefore read some journal of the day.

As to friends who may call on you—never be confused or in a hurry; treat them with hospitality and politeness, and endeavor to make them happy in their own way. Never tease them to do this or that which they do not prefer. True politeness consists in an easy and pleasant deportment, and making our friends easy, and permitting them to enjoy themselves in that way which is most pleasing to them.

Speak with deliberation. The other sex tell us that “the female tongue is never tired;” be it so: let it be regulated by reason.

At the close of the week, if possible, let all

your work, for the time, be done ; so that on Sunday you may improve your time in such a manner as will be appropriate to the day ; and never, extraordinaries excepted, let your seat be vacant at church.

As to dress, decency is becoming to all ; but extravagance opens a door to want ; follow the fashion of the day as far as decency and good sense will approve, but avoid singularity. Be not troubled for what you have not ; be thankful for, and take care of what you have. A Leghorn hat loaded with flowers will not cure the headache, nor a gold watch prevent the consumption.—[American Farmer.

PRINTING.—It is now 400 years since the art of printing was invented, before which time books were written by the hand. Though the copier had low wages, books were very dear ; so that a Bible was sold for 30% of the money of that day, which would be equal to 90% of this. The price of books was high, because the work to produce them was very great. When the art of printing was invented, an end was put to the trade of the copier. A single printer could do the work of 200 copiers. It seems a hardship for 199 to be thus thrown out of employment : but where one book of manuscript was sold, a thousand were required ; so that the increased demand for books at low prices employed a number of printers. Other trades were called into operation by printing, such as correctors of the press, book-binders and book-sellers ; so that several thousand more persons were employed by printing, or some business connected with it, than, before its invention, there were by the writing process. Without the invention of printing, books could be purchased only by the rich, instead of being the judges, the guides, the companions, the best friends, and the ornaments of the million. Without the machinery used in the art of printing, the knowledge of books would be confined to the few ; there would be no general literature, no public opinion, and most probably, no revival of letters would have taken place.—[English paper.

Let woman beware of the intemperate. Let her shun their presence as the accursed of heaven ; the smitten with that moral leprosy which is alike immedicable and unescapable. Let her remember that in uniting her destiny with that of a drunkard, she is drawing down upon her head the heaviest of curses. It were better to embrace the sepulchre, whose cold wall are haunted only by the spectre of decay. It is the wedlock of beauty and pollution ; of purity and pestilence ; the binding of the breathing form of life to the loathsomeness of death.

A GOOD STORY —Among the first settlers of Brunswick, Me. was Daniel Malcolm, a man of undaunted courage, and an inveterate enemy of the Indians, who gave him the name Surgurnumby, *i. e.* very strong man. Early in the spring he ventured alone in the forest for the purpose of splitting rails from the spruce, not apprehensive of the return of the Indians so early in the season. While engaged in his work, and having opened a log with small wedges about half its length, he was surprised by Indians, who crept up and secured his musket, standing by his side. "Surgurnumby," said the chief, "now me got you ; long me want you : you long time speak Indian, long time worry him ; me have got you now, look up stream to Canada."—"Well" said Malcolm, with true sang froid, "you have me ; but just help me open this log before I go!"—They all, five in number, agreed. Malcolm prepared a large wooden wedge, carefully drove it, took out his small wedges and told the Indians to put in their fingers to the partially clefted wood, and help to pull it open : they did : he then suddenly struck out his blunt wedge and the elastic wood instantly closed fast on their fingers, and he secured them.

THE YANKEE IN "THE OLD SHOE."—Burton's story, in a late number of his Magazine of "The Yankee in Hell," is capital. He describes Nebuchadnezzar as good at "all fours," and particularly expert in the preparation of "salad." The introduction of the Yankee to his infernal majesty is peculiar.

"How d'ye dew, folks," said the stranger, puffing away at a long cigar ; "is the boss devil at hum?"

His majesty looked sulphur and saltpetre at the intruder. "Reptile!" he exclaimed, in a voice of thunder, that rumbled and reverberated in the depths of a pit without a bottom ; "who are you, that you dare intrude upon our sacred privacy?"

"Whew!" said the stranger, "do n't tear your shirt! Why, what on airth is the use of your goin' off at half-cock, in that way? Why do you jump afore you 're spurred? there aint such an almighty occasion for you to git your dander so awfully riz, jist as if you was goin' to bust your biler. Seein' that your climate's rather of the warmest, it would only be doing the civil thing if you jist said, 'Mister, toe the mark, and take your bitters.'"

"Worm! hence to your appointed place in the yawning gulf!—there in the hottest flame——"

"Waal, I gues not," drawled out the stranger, with imperturbable calmness ; "I've got my ticket, Mister, from the reg'lar agent, and I do n't choose a berth *so nigh the engine.*"

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, FEBRUARY 1, 1841.

"RETENTION OF THE PLACENTA."

In the last number of the Manual, p. 66, we copied an article under this head from the "Southern Botanic Journal." Towards the close of the article, the writer says, "if we should suspect internal hemorrhage to exist, I would advise the removal of the placenta by art." At the time of marking the article for the compositor, we understood the above quotation merely to recommend assisting nature by art—and probably that was all the writer intended to convey by the words—but the more experienced eye of Dr. Thomson readily perceived and pointed out to us the erroneous impression likely to be made by them. The recommending "the removal of the placenta by art," would naturally convey the idea that *force* was to be employed; which Dr. Thomson has always unqualifiedly condemned. Assist nature—never force her—is his doctrine. In such a case as referred to above, all that is necessary is to follow the directions laid down in the "New Guide."

☞ The *Solomon* who presides over the columns of the "Boston True Thomsonian" has been taken "with fear and trembling" for the reputation of the Thomsonian cause, because we stated in Manual No. 4, under the head "Lobelia not a Poison," that food was seldom thrown up where lobelia emetics were administered. Just hear him:—

"The remark is frequently made that lobelia will cleanse the 'stomach of all morbid matter,' and produce thorough vomiting, 'without removing the food.' This doctrine, it appears, from the source whence it now emanates, is sanctioned by Dr. Thomson. A single moment's reflection would be sufficient to convince any man of its consummate absurdity, even if he were entirely ignorant of the manner in which vomiting is produced. The

stimulating medicines administered preparatory to giving lobelia, increase the muscular action of the stomach, and the food is consequently reduced speedily to a homogeneous mass, except there be some portions of it, that are exceedingly indigestible. Let a course of medicine be commenced in the usual manner, and instead of giving lobelia, administer *ipecacuanha*, *wine of antimony*, *sulphate of zinc*, or *tartar emetic*, and there will be no more appearance of food than when lobelia is given. We regret that the Thomsonian cause should be injured by the propagation of such absurdities; and if the article was published without the consent or knowledge of Dr. Thomson, we hope he will retract it."

If we rightly understand the author of the above "homogeneous mass," he intends to say that the food is brought up by lobelia; but that "the stimulating medicines administered preparatory to giving lobelia," change whatever food the stomach may at the time contain into a mass of the same *nature* or *principles* with the *morbid* matter; and being all brought up together, the food cannot be discovered! What a favorable opinion those unacquainted with the "stimulating medicines" will have of them, after being told by the "*True Thomsonian*" that they speedily reduce the food to a *diseased mass*! for such is the fair inference from the above description of their effects.

We repeat the assertion, that lobelia, even when it acts thoroughly as an emetic, seldom brings up food; except in cases where something indigestible has been eaten. And we will abide by the decision of a majority of the practical Thomsonians throughout the land. Every one who is at all practically acquainted with lobelia, knows this to be one of its peculiar traits. It is often the case that a patient, in going through a course of medicine, will drink a cupful of milk-porridge, and vomit freely one minute after, without bringing up a particle of the porridge. Does the Editor of the Thomsonian say that the stimulating medicines reduce *this*, in an instant, to a "homogeneous mass?" and that it is brought up? Again, lobelia seldom brings up *bile*. Perhaps this, also, is reduced to a homogeneous mass!

The above remarks of the Thomsonian amount to this; that vomiting is vomiting—no matter by what produced: "*ipecacuanha*, *wine of antimony*, *sulphate of zinc*, *tartar emetic*," or any other *poison* that will excite vomiting, has the same action on the stomach, and produces the same result as lobelia!

Did the Editor of the Thomsonian pen the above for the good of the cause? or did he do it in the hope of making his readers believe that all the discoveries of Dr. Thomson amount to naught? Not content with pronouncing all of Dr. Thom-

son's medicines *spurious*, he would now impugn the very principles of the system itself; and have the public believe, were it possible, that it was founded in error and corruption; and that through *his* purifying influence alone, it is to be regenerated!

All we said of lobelia, has been proved to us by experience; notwithstanding the *sapient* Editor of the Thomsonian pronounces it absurdity. But in justice to him it should be here stated that we have always purchased our medicines of Dr. Thomson; and never having used any prepared by the Editor of the Thomsonian, we cannot say but *his* would have the effect which he claims for them in the paragraph above quoted. I. H. A.

☞ The "sheep-skin" doctors of our goodly city, according to the Surg. and Med. Journal, are "in a peck of trouble" because the Boston Almanac contains a list of *all* the physicians in the city—calomelites, steamites, cornites, and all the other ites, in the self-same list. How very sensitive these gentlemen are on the score of their "exclusive rights and privileges!" how alarmed lest their "dignity" should be lowered in the eyes of community by seeing their names on the same list with those who have not been *licensed* to feed the public on *calomel*! Gentlemen, petition the State for redress of grievances. Your present "law-legs" have got the *neuralgia*!

☞ We have been shown a sample of the *Hot Drops, Syrup, and Wine Bitters*, manufactured and kept for sale at *Hale's Blackstone Street Depot*—known as "New England Thomsonian Depot." But any grocery store in the city, might with just as much propriety be called "THOMSONIAN," for the articles are no more like those prepared and sold by Dr. Thomson, than his medicines are like the stale waters of a frog-pond. As to their effect on the patient, whether harmless or otherwise, we shall not say; but with all the talk about Thomsonians preferring Mr. Hale's medicines to Dr. Thomson's medicines, we believe, if they sell such trash as we have seen come from the Blackstone Street Depot, that those who buy it, are no more Thomsonian than was Dr. French, who procured an indictment against Dr. Thomson in the outset of his high and noble career as a medical reformer.

Those who feel interested, and will call at the Thomsonian Infirmary, No. 40 Salem st., can have an opportunity of examining the articles, and also of comparing them with the genuine. Mr. Hale can hardly be called a counterfeiter, if he can do no better at imitating, than these specimens prove him capable of.

INFATUATION.—A physician in Albany, (N. Y.,) says—"We read last week a heart-sickening account of the decease of a fine and amiable young lady who fell a victim to Fashion—*she laced herself to death!* Apart from the prevailing infatuation which leads females to commit elegant and refined suicide, she is said to have been an uncommonly intelligent and promising girl. The body presented a dreadful sight. The ribs were contracted to within half their natural circumference, and the shoulder blades were actually lapped over each other! The chest was of course extremely narrow, and not half the natural room was left for the action of the heart, and the inspiration of air into the lungs. The consequence was death."

A RECIPE FOR TAKING THE FEVER AND AGUE.—
"A recipe for what?" Oh, do n't be alarmed; you need n't try it if you do n't like it. You can read it, though, without much danger unless your blood is very thin. It is taken from the Plattville (Wisconsin) Badger. "Put on cotton or linen pantaloons, (yellow if possible,) a long-tailed pale blue old jean coat, a high-crowned, peaked-top straw or chip hat, and a low pair of shoes without socks; then seat yourself on a high stump, next morning after the first frost, and rest your head on your hand and your elbow on your knee, and look over the fence wishfully, into a cucumber patch. If you can stand this operation two hours without your teeth chattering, you are proof against the ague; if the experiment fails, you may attribute the failure to the healthiness of the climate, and not the inefficiency of the experiment."

☞ We have received a lengthy and somewhat severe communication, from Dr John Thomson, in reply to the Boston True Thomsonian's remarks on the Doctor's Red Raspberry article, published in our paper a few weeks ago. We do not publish the article, as our friends both at home and abroad tell us, that the public are convinced of the correctness of Dr. Thomson's remarks on Red Raspberry, and to publish a lengthy reply, would be taking too much notice of "small potatoes."

COTTON FOR TOOTHACHE.—Among the best remedies for toothache and swollen face is cotton. Put as much into the mouth as can conveniently be kept in, and in a few hours the pain and inflammation will be gone. If the swollen part of the face is covered with cotton, the swelling will soon disappear.

Dr. Thomson has constantly on hand and for sale, at the Thomsonian General Depot, No. 40 Salem street, books and medicines, which he respectfully solicits his friends and the public to call and examine. As he wishes to hand down to posterity his system in its purity, he requests all who may have been deceived by the show and bombast of people who have come out as his superiors, both as to compounding medicines, and fair dealing—notwithstanding they use his name as a passport to the Thomsonian community—to bear in mind that they should examine well the article before they purchase. Dr. Thomson does not wish to injure or stop the sale of any man's medicines, but deems it his duty to notify the public that the compounds and mixtures which he has examined, said to have been purchased at Mr Hale's store, bore no resemblance to his own, and that they are not THOMSONIAN, although sold under that name.

Books and pamphlets treating on the Thomsonian system, which will serve as guards against imposition, will be sold as above on reasonable terms.

ENGLAND'S QUEEN.—The youthful Queen of the "mother country" has recently given birth to a daughter. The London journals teem with the minutest particulars of this joyful event, and represent the Queen as doing finely after her accouchment.—We are not particularly interested in this event, but think we may say a word by way of encouragement to those who are styled "botanic quacks" by the scientific quacks of our time. The physician who attended the Queen in her recent confinement, is one who has received the said cognomen in his own country as our practitioners here enjoy—"botanic quack," for he has long since eschewed the use of minerals and all poisons in the cure of disease.—That man is Sir James Clark. Take courage. Royally patronized, the botanic practice, the court, and the lords and lacquies in waiting, will follow. The fashion once fairly started, who will be so unfashionable as to swallow poisons when health-restoring remedies are at hand?—[Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.

The last No. of the American Jurist says, "If forty physicians were summoned before the Judges of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, and were asked for a medical opinion upon a point about which it would seem there could possibly be but little if any difference in the answer to be given, no doubt there would be just *forty opinions*, differing from each other." For confirmation of these facts, see the opinions of the "regulars" on lobelia, as reported in Frost's Trial.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A THOMSONIAN.—No. III.

Some time during the winter of '36-7, the lady with whom I boarded was attacked with a violent pain in the head, which continued to increase from day to day until she appeared to be on the brink of insanity. I endeavored to persuade her to try the Thomsonian remedies, but she dared not do it without consulting her *family physician*. After suffering severely for two or three days, she sent for Dr. D., who immediately drew from her arm *three pints* of blood. When I went home to dinner she informed me that the doctor had called upon and bled her to the amount of three pints; "and my head" said she, "is perfectly free from pain; it only feels a little light, flighty. What do you say to bleeding now?" continued she; for I had often spoken to her of the evil effects of that practice. "My opinion is not in the least changed," I replied; "for although your head is relieved, I fear it is not permanent. In fact, the *flighty* sensation which you continue to experience, fully convinces me that the cause of your complaint is not removed; and I very much fear that in proportion as your blood again increases, the distress in your head will also increase." I then informed her that undoubtedly some of the blood-vessels of the head had become obstructed—that the blood in passing through these contracted parts, caused a great pressure, and hence the pain. Bleeding, I told her, relieved the pain, because taking away part of the blood, took off so much of the pressure; but as the blood again increased, so would the pressure and pain, as long as the obstruction continued. The Thomsonian remedies, I informed her, would remove the obstructions at once, and thus allow the uninterrupted circulation of the blood. She said if her head did trouble her again, she should think that my Thomsonian ideas were correct, and would take some of the medicine.

The very next day she began to complain again of her head, and in three or four days she was as bad as before being bled. She was a very large, portly woman, weighing nearly 200lbs., and her blood made very fast. The doctor called again, and proposed a second bleeding; but she would not consent. He then prescribed a cathartic, and left. This was in the morning. She took the medicine he ordered, which very soon operated, but did not relieve her head in the least. In the evening her husband requested me to go up and see her. She was in bed, suffering the most ex-

cruciating pain in the head, and at times hardly seemed to know what was passing around her. She said she would take any medicine I thought proper to give, except lobelia.

I made a pint of strong composition tea, added a tea-spoonful of cayenne, gave her a cupful at a time, and had three or four steaming stones placed around her, and in a few minutes she was in a profuse perspiration—her head grew easy, and she soon dropped to sleep. I gave her husband instructions not to let the perspiration be suddenly checked, and left her in his charge for the night. She rested well, in the morning her head was perfectly free from all pain or unpleasant feeling, and by taking composition at night, and spiced-bitters three times a day, for a few days, she was restored to perfect health.

I will now carry the reader back to the winter of '35, for the purpose of reporting a case that was treated *scientifically* throughout. D. D., a young man who roomed with me, took a violent cold and attempted to *physic* it off. He grew worse, and sent for Dr. C., who immediately commenced giving *calomel*, and a "seated fever" was the consequence. In three days' time the patient was reduced to death's door. Not content with filling him with poisons, the doctor ordered *blood-suckers* applied to his abdomen as close together as they could be put on—thus drawing out what little life remained. For a week or more he was as sick a person as I ever saw. The doctor continued giving him poison, until there remained but a spark of life in him, and then stopped prescribing any thing. For three or four days he was not expected to live from hour to hour. But finally, nature triumphed, and he began to recover very slowly.

In the course of three or four days from the time he began to recover, his appetite was craving constantly for food, but the doctor denied him all except an occasional spoonful of rice-water, or something of the kind. There he lay for days, in a starving condition—begging all the time for something to eat. Finally, one evening, he said he was determined to have something to eat, and told his sister, who was taking care of him, if she did not fetch him something he would try to get up and help himself. Thus entreated, she broke the commands of the doctor, and carried to her brother a cup of very weak tea and two thin slices of toasted bread. After eating it, he soon dropped to sleep. Having agreed to watch with him that night, I went to his chamber directly after supper, when his sister informed me what she had given him to eat, and asked if I thought it would hurt

him. I replied, no—he should have had it four days ago.

Between nine and ten o'clock in the evening, the doctor called. The patient was still sleeping. His sister stated to him what she had given her brother to eat. He walked to the bed, and the moment he saw the face of the patient he turned to the sister and exclaimed "How dared you disobey my orders? You have killed your brother—thrown him into a raging fever!" A flood of tears burst forth from the half-distracted sister, on hearing this abrupt and inhuman exclamation from the doctor. I walked to the bed and looked at the patient. Instead of the deathly hue which had been for days upon his countenance, there was now perceptible a slight tint of the rose—a token of returning health; and this, the **** or ***** of a doctor pronounced a "raging fever." My finger-ends itched to *reduce* him to the street, without the aid of *calomel*, or even a *flight of stairs*. I told him that the patient had slept soundly, and lain perfectly quiet, for three hours; I hardly thought he would have done so, had he been in a "raging fever." After feeling of his pulse, the doctor acknowledged that he was not quite so "feverish" as he at first imagined—he might possibly escape "a relapse." And after cautioning the sister against the *dangerous effects of food*, this man of *science* departed.

The patient rested well all night, and sat up an hour or two the next day; ate moderately of whatever his appetite craved—had no farther necessity for his doctor—and in a few days was about house. Had the doctor's *starving* orders been complied with, probably he could have charged for a dozen or more visits.

For the Manual.

MR. EDITOR,—I value the Thomsonian Manual among the best publications of the day. At the close of each volume I rejoice to see another announced, and always use my mite of influence in recommending it to the readers of the papers I have been and am now editing. The reason I value it so highly is because it is (speaking politically) the "official organ" of the Thomsonian fraternity, and a bold and able defender of the Thomsonian system of medicine and the rights of its venerable founder. I regret exceedingly that the Thomsonian friends in the United States cannot be united, and in one solid phalanx go forward in the field of battle against the *butchers in disguise*, till they should have annihilated them and disenthralled the *doctor-ridden* people from the cruel and unnatural yoke "learned quackery" has put upon them. Like the different sects in religion, so the cause of Thomsonism is being cut up

and divided ; and one party opposing the other, like them, yet all professedly aiming at the same object. But I expect not to be able to change this unfavorable aspect of affairs by my pen. Let the cause progress as well and as fast as it can, only see that the system be preserved in its purity—its original purity from all deleterious component ingredients.

I attended a Temperance lecture the other evening, when a gentleman alluded to a fish-pond somewhere in New England, and to a law that was passed to prohibit the poisoning of the fish. "Now," said he, "if a law may be enacted to prohibit the poisoning of fishes, I should like to know why one might and ought not to be enacted to prevent the poisoning of men by the selling of ardent spirits."—I thought the argument was strong in favor of the object he had in view, viz: the getting of a law to allow voters in their districts to say by vote whether any person shall have license to sell liquor or not.—But I thought the argument might with as much propriety and force be brought to bear against the *learned*, but unfortunately still *ignorant*, quacks of the poison and steel clan. But it would be "hooted down" in some "enlightened" communities, if the step were resorted to, to procure legislative enactments against the selling of the most dangerous and deadly poisons for medicine—to be given—or rather taken by the poor patient, with the expectation of receiving relief when it has the very tendency of blighting his hopes and extinguishing his lamp of life. It is however our best and safest plan to carry our reform triumphantly on to perfection, to enlighten the people's eyes upon the subject of health, disease, medicine and poison. Give them light and they will see.

During the last quarter century an unprecedented revolution has taken place in the medical world ; so that the friends of reform may look with pleasing anticipations for final success. If one man in twenty-five years has converted three millions of men and women from the system of fashionable quackery to natural reason and natural medicine, what will three millions effect in twenty-five more? My mathematical qualifications are too limited to make the calculation. But one thing I can say ; the hopes of many who purchase at great prices small pieces of sheepskin will not make as much in a hurry as it cost them ; for diplomas will not be of sufficient force and authority to allow them to cram down their fellow-men's throats the worst enemies to life and health. And fathers and mothers will become their own family doctors—which will enable them to do without the pill-bag gentry.

Go on with your dissemination of light and knowledge, and unnumbered millions will, at least, reap

the benefit of it with grateful hearts. And Samuel Thomson's name be handed down to future generations, as the brightest star in the medical galaxy.

Yours, JOHN F. WEISHAMPEL.
Harrisburgh, (Pa.) Jan. 1841.

For the Manual.

LIVER COMPLAINT.

MR. EDITOR,—I was troubled for about three years with a bilious habit, and what the medical doctors termed liver complaint, and for which they prescribed purgatives during the whole time, to be taken as often as twice a week, which only tended to increase the disease and make me more and more an invalid. About a year since, finding my disorder had increased very fast, I sent for a medical doctor, who administered epicacua and castor oil. I still grew worse, until I was exceedingly weak and wholly unable to do any business. I then sent for Dr. N. S. Magoon, agent for Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40-Salem street, Boston, who took me to his Infirmary where I staid four days and took two courses of medicine, and was very much improved. Being obliged to return home, I purchased Dr. Thomson's Family Right and a box of medicine, and became my own physician. In about three months my health was entirely restored ; and since that time I have enjoyed good health without taking any purgatives.

I freely give this statement in favor of the Thomsonian system, fully believing my life was saved by it, and sincerely hope that people who are sick will shun the poison system and take the Thomsonian medicines. But I would caution the public not to be deceived in their medicine ; be sure you purchase that which is of the right sort. There are many who sell spurious compounds of Thomsonian medicines ; therefore if you wish to have that which is good, send to No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

JACOB BARTER.

Boston, Jan. 3, 1841.

German physicians estimate that half the deaths between 18 and 35, in that country, are produced by the use of tobacco.

We should endeavor to comprehend the force and meaning of the terms we hear used, lest either their obscurity keep us in ignorance, or their ambiguity lead us into errors.

It is better to be the dupe of a good heart, than to suffer suspicion to check every generous impulse.

"NOVEL RAT TRAP.—Take a barrel with a few pails of water in it, draw a skin or parchment across the open head with a string; cut it across and athwart nearly to the outside. Take some drippings and mix it with meal; smear it on the middle of the parchment. The rats will smell it and treading on the parchment it will give way, and they will fall into the barrel. Put a plank for them to creep up to the barrel's brink outside, and strew some oat-meal on it. You must not let the water be too deep, but set a brick endways in it, and the first rat that is caught, will make a noise which will entice more, and they will increase the noise, by that means enticing still more; and in fighting for the possession of the brick, the noise will draw others. Thus, in one night, the house may be cleared of rats, be they ever so many. Mice and other vermin may be caught in a similar manner."

LUSUS NATURÆ.—A correspondent of the Portsmouth (Va.) Chronicle, gives the following account of a singular freak of nature. He is a physician, of character, and vouches for the truth of it.

A negro woman, in the county of Matthews, Va., was delivered, on the 25th of November, of three children. One was a perfectly formed child, and is now living and hearty. The other two are a *lusus naturæ*, more remarkable in every respect than the notorious Siamese twins. They have each a perfect formation from the cord to the crown of the head. They have four perfect arms, two separate heads, complete in their organization, and two chests. The formation from the umbilicus downwards, is that of a single child. There is only one abdomen, one umbilical cord and two legs, with one organization of the male sex. They were living until a few moments before the birth. They must have possessed two hearts and two separate pulmonary organs, with only one set of intestines and lower extremities. They have been kept in spirits for preservation, with the intention of presenting them to a museum of some medical college, and consequently have not been dissected.

The head has the most beautiful appearance, as well as the highest station in a human figure.—Nature has laid all her art in beautifying the face; she has touched it with vermilion, planted in it a double row of ivory, made it the seat of smiles and blushes, lighted up and enlivened it with the brightness of the eyes, hung it on each side with curious organs of sense, given it airs and graces that cannot be described, and surrounded it with such a flowing shade of hair as sets all its beauties in the most agreeable light. In short she seems to have designed the head as the cupola to the most glorious of her works; and when we load it with a pile of supernumerary ornaments, we destroy the symmetry of the human figure, and foolishly contrive to call off the eye from great and real beauties, to childish gewgaws, ribands, and lace.

LIGHTNING.—Lightning is identically the same as electricity, consequently governed by the same laws. The thunder shower is easily explained on the same principle. The earth is one conducting surface, and the clouds are the other, while the intermediate air is the nonconducting medium.—When the clouds become charged at the expense of the earth, or *vice versa*, and they approach each other, or are united by a conducting substance, the electrical fluid instantly passes from one to the other, producing light and heat with an explosion called thunder. We frequently hear light explosions which appear to be in the air; these are caused by the fluid passing from one cloud to another. The following phenomenon is observable in almost every thunder shower:—When it begins to rain powerfully the intensity of the thunder and lightning becomes very much lessened. This is accounted for by supposing every drop of water to be surcharged with electricity, which is undoubtedly the case. We very readily perceive that by this means the equilibrium would soon be restored.

Many individuals are sleepy while a shower is raising, others are nervous, some are sick and faint, and almost every one is sensible of a different state of feeling. Some individuals are so sensitive that they may be regarded as living electrometers,—as they will frequently tell, hours previously, that there will be a shower during the day.—All these temporal aberrations of the senses, are caused by a surplus, paucity, or unequal distribution of the electrical fluid.

AN EVENTFUL YEAR.—The year 1812 was probably the most eventful of any in history, ancient or modern. England was convulsed by the riots in the manufacturing districts; Wm. Purceval lost his life, and at his death commenced the detestable reign of Liverpool and Vansittart; Wellington took the towns of Ciudad, Rodeige, and Badajos, and won the battle of Salamanca; Spain abolished the Peerage and the Inquisition, and proclaimed her new Constitution; all South-America was in civil war; and Napoleon fought the battles of Walna, Smolenski, Borodino and Moscow, and finally saw his mighty host perish in the snow; the English likewise took Almaraz and Seville, and witnessed disgrace and defeat from the Americans at sea and in the Canadas. In this eventful year, three millions of Christians, under the sanction of the mother church and holy priesthood, were armed for reciprocal carnage, and all Europe and America were made slaughter-houses of the human race. It is supposed that more than one million of men, women and children were sacrificed in this memorable year. The only event of the year 1812, on which a rational person can reflect with satisfaction, is the spirit of freedom which in Spain destroyed the Inquisition and established her glorious Constitution, and yet this noble work, in two years, was subverted by the perjury of the most mean and execrable wretch in existence—Ferdinand the petticoat maker.—[Boston Times.]

Give place to old age, and dispute not the honors due to venerable years.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.
 Acton, Robert Chaffee
 Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
 Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
 Ashby, F A Kendall
 Andover, John Harding
 Andover, (Ballard Vale) Aaron P. Holt.
 Ashby, Thomas Gibson
 Colerain, Oscar J Martin
 " Calvin W. Shattuck
 Chesterfield, Amos Bisby
 " Varnum Nichols
 Danvers, Amos Trask, and J R Pattin
 " Joseph Shaw Jr
 " South Parish, James Worcester
 Essex, Eli F Burnham
 " E. B. Putnam.
 Eastham, Scotter Cobb
 Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
 " M. O. Bradford
 Gloucester, Samuel Friend
 " Gideon Lane
 " David E. Saunders
 Harvard, J. Hosmer
 Leveret, Myron Ashley
 Lowell, Daniel Hutchinson
 " Perkins H Dow
 Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney
 Milford, S Sumner
 Middleborough, Rev A Briggs
 South Andover, Jacob Jenkins
 North Reading, Eben'r Eaton
 " Thomas Abbot
 North Andover, L. T. Presson
 New Bedford, Prince Weeks
 " " G. Nye
 Newburyport, G W Goodwin
 " J Blood
 Orleans, Vickery Sparrow
 Plymouth, Samuel Barnes
 Reading, N K J Vinal
 Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
 Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
 Salem, R W Merrill
 Springfield, Sirguy Noble
 Sturbridge, D Mason
 Stoughton, Luther Belcher
 Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh
 Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
 Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
 Walpole, Williard Lewis
 Waltham, J Shepley
 Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
 Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
 Camden, Thomas Annis
 " William Merriam
 East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon
 Eastport, John Shackford
 Frankfort, George Kimball
 Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
 Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher
 Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster
 " M. M. Miles

Machias, Wm. Smith
 Norway, Jotham Goodnow
 Portland, Daniel Sawyer
 " Rev. C. D. French
 Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
 Ripley, Samuel A. Todd
 Searsmont, Randlet Ness
 Thomaston, Horatio Alden
 Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, A. Watkins, and Bethuel Keith
 Exeter, S. J. Perkins
 Kingston, John Dearborn,
 Langdon, Royal Shumway
 Meredith, William M. Ladd
 Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
 New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
 New Hampton, James Jackson
 Nashua, Jesse Whitney
 Pembroke, Moses Martin
 Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
 Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
 Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Bennington, George Boardman Jr
 Chelsea, Benj. Grant
 Charlemont, David Todd
 Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
 Dover, Daniel Leonard
 East Randolph, P. Smith
 Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
 Halifax, S. Plumb
 " Eben'r M. Clark
 " Alvah Brooks
 " John Reid, Esq.
 Green River, Sam'l Cutting
 Guilford, Henry Packer
 " Philip Martin
 Londonderry, J. Arnold
 Randolph, Jehiel Smith
 Woodstock, Nathan Cushing
 " Jacob Holt
 Whitingham, W. Goodnow
 " Reuben Green
 " Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson
 New Haven, George Munson
 Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson
 New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev
 enth St., near 5th Avenue
 Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
 Troy, Ira Wood
 Westport, J. K. French

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
 Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Wilmington, Wm. T. Gerts
 Rocky Mount, A. Willford

New Book.**TO THE THOMSONIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

The public mind has been agitated for two and a half years past, in relation to a revision of my Narrative and New Guide to Health, by Morris Mattson, who has had said work in hand for said purpose.

After the original time for said work to be completed had expired, I added seven months more of time, in order that no reasonable excuse could be offered, on his part, for not having the work complete. I also loaned Mr. Mattson \$1150 in cash, so that there should be no deficiency on my part, so far as money could facilitate the work. On the 1st of June, the time appointed for the completion of the work, the Narrative had not been commenced; the plates were not finished; and what was read of the description of the remedies, was defective. I therefore gave up the idea of Mr. Mattson being competent to put the work in complete order for publication, and concluded he did not design to do the work as agreed upon. I also found that the wants of the people were, that the Book should be written or compiled by a PRACTICAL man, *Mr. Mattson not being such.*

I therefore dissolved all connection with said Mattson, relative to the publication of said work; and shall now go on with it myself, assisted by my son, Dr. John Thomson, of the City of Albany, N. Y., and am in hopes to produce a work during the coming season, that will meet the approbation of the long disappointed community.

No pains will be spared to furnish a work that will meet the wants of the public. The Narrative will be embellished with a new Portrait of the Author, on steel—and the New Guide will contain numerous engravings of the principal plants used in the Thomsonian System of Practice, together with new remedies.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

From the Boston True Thomsonian of Sept. 15. 1840.

"We are sometimes asked whether Dr. M. [Mattson] intends to publish his work, on the supposition that Dr. Thomson's copy right is good for nothing. Dr. M. informs us that he does not know whether the copy right is good, or good for nothing. He does not intend to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson's book, and therefore will not violate his copy right, admitting its validity."

N. B. I am willing Mr. Mattson should publish his work, on the above condition—that is, if he does not copy from my book.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles* and *Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthen-

ing plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, FEBRUARY 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 7.

MELODY—BY C. F. HOFFMAN.

When the flowers of friendship or love have decayed,
In the heart that has trusted and once been betrayed,
No sunshine of kindness their bloom can restore,
For the verdure of feeling will quicken no more.
Hope cheated too often, when life's in its spring,
From the bosom that nursed it, forever takes wing!
And memory comes, as its promises fade,
To brood o'er the havoc that passion has made.
As it's said that the swallow the tenement leaves
Where ruin endangers her nest in the eaves,
While the desolate owl takes her place on the wall,
And builds in the mansion that nods to its fall.

MERCURY.

Mercury is a metal found in the earth, generally in an impure state; it is purified by distillation in iron retorts, and comes to us in a fluid state called quicksilver. The persons who work in quicksilver mines soon die, in consequence of inhaling its deleterious fumes—their teeth drop out, and the bones soon become carious. From many motives, mercury has been tortured into a greater variety of forms than any other article of the *Materia Medica*. The usual forms in which it is now administered, are calomel or submuriate of mercury, corrosive sublimate or muriate of mercury, white precipitate or ammoniated submuriate of mercury, blue pill, which is a compound of quicksilver, conserve of roses and liquorice powder, rubbed together until the globules disappear, by which process it is converted into the black oxide. Mercury is also prepared in various ways and applied as an ointment; that which is most used is the blue ointment, which is prepared by rubbing together quicksilver and lard until the globules disappear; which likewise converts the quicksilver into an oxide of mercury. Any one of these different preparations being applied to the system, produce effects not very dissimilar to each other: they are all capable of producing salivation, and the various evils attributable to mercury. When applied in the form of mercurial ointment, it is absorbed into the system, and may produce salivation by its action on the glands, and as before shown, is the black oxide. When taken into the stomach in the form of calomel, it meets with the alkali of the bile, which decomposes the submuriate, and the black oxide is there formed. All of which facts plainly show that in the state of an oxide it is absorbed into the system; and consequent-

ly, to the oxide must be attributed the various evils resulting from mercury. It now requires to be shown the action it has upon the system when thus absorbed. That it has a peculiar action upon the salivary glands, decomposing the fluids, and particularly the lymph, is very evident, as witnessed by the fœtid breath in cases of salivation. It is owing to the decomposition of the fluids that support the nervous system, that such great weakness and debility is experienced after its use. It has a singular sympathetic action upon the liver, which viscus is thereby thrown into a morbid convulsive action, creating bile, exorbitant in quantity and poisonous in quality. Hence we generally perceive those individuals who have taken mercury to any extent, to have a sallow complexion, depraved bile being diffused through the system, they are subject to attacks of bilious fever, jaundice, &c., in consequence of such depraved secretions of bile. Its use produces impaired or capricious appetite for food, indigestion, flatulency, disturbed sleep, frightful dreams, impaired or depraved vision, frequent aches and pains in various parts of the body, as the kidneys, liver, breast, limbs, sides, &c.; and let me here remark, that what is so frequently termed rheumatism, may generally be traced to the effects of mercury; for I am persuaded that few become affected with rheumatism, unless at some previous time they have taken mercury. The use of it sometimes produces such sudden failure of strength as if just dying, palpitation of the heart, difficulty of breathing, emaciation, debility, eruptions of the skin, sore throat, &c. It produces ulcers of a very malignant character, which have baffled the skill of the ablest practitioners.

We could cite many authorities from the most scientific of the medical faculty, in confirmation of the declarations we have here made; but presume that every physician is generally acquainted with these facts, and my time will not permit me to give the language of Reese, Hamilton, Falconer, Huestis, Harvey, Graves, Callaban, Stokes, Hunneland, and Hardy, and I might add the names of Beach, Lobstein, Waterhouse, &c.; but to whom I would refer as persons whose reputations and scientific attainments are too high for unrighteous imputation to reach. Mercury not only has the power of decomposing the fluids, and producing such extensive mischief as I have described, but it like-

wise has the power of decomposing the bone, producing exfoliation. The bones are composed of phosphoric acid and lime, called phosphate of lime. The oxide of mercury having a greater affinity for phosphoric acid than for lime, the phosphoric acid separates from the bone and unites with the oxide, forming phosphate of mercury; and of the bone, an oxide of calcium, which is our common lime. And not only so, phosphoric acid is a constituent of the fluids of the body, and is far more abundant in them than any other; there are not many of the fluids, if any, from which it is absent. Combined with lime, it is found in the muscles and almost all the solid parts of the system, forming the ossific matter; in some of the fluids it exists even to excess. Without further illustration, the informed mind at once must here perceive the true and real cause of all the miserable effects of mercury, the weakness, debility, pains, ulceration, &c. And hence is also the cause accounted for, why the administration of phosphoric acid as a medicine, has been so highly esteemed by some physicians, but it is likewise a dangerous remedy. Mercury is a fruitful source of chronic disease, and when administered for acute diseases, as in fevers, almost invariably produces a chronic affection of some one or other of the abdominal viscera; and particularly that organ over which a blister may have been placed. These doctrines may appear new to some; but are they not true? I challenge a refutation of them. I have studiously examined them, both theoretically and practically, and know that I am not mistaken. If gentlemen contend they are incorrect, will they inform us what is correct? Never has the world been so fatally imposed upon, by any drug or mineral as an article for the relief of oppressed nature, as by this. Witness the poor wretch, racked with all the pains of a mercurial rheumatism; the poor cripple, hobbling upon his wooden leg; the sufferer, whose jaw-bones exfoliate and rot out: and for want of a more sufficient argument, such treatment is vindicated by allegations that the effects were accidental. The introduction of mercury into the practice of medicine was a most unfortunate day for the science, and still more so for the cause of suffering humanity.—Native Physician.

[From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.]

THOMSONISM.

The force of prejudice is equal to that of pride! The former operates on the mind to the disadvantage of improvement and the development of truth, while the latter discards comfort and usefulness for that of folly. The mass of mankind are satisfied that others should think

for them, and consequently they do not give themselves the trouble to inquire into matters that would materially improve their condition and elevate them in the scale of being.

The art of healing, as it is called, has been long confided to a few interested individuals, who by degrees obtained sufficient power and influence to sway the public mind and chain posterity to whatever they might indicate for the health and lives of the people.

In no other way can we account for the gross imposition so flagrantly exhibited by those who style themselves the "regular faculty." There is scarcely an article adopted by them "scientifically," that is not at war with reason, and the health and lives of their patients. The fact is simply this: a college diplomatic doctor is a privileged character—he may poison to death, bleed, cup, leech, blister, starve, purge and cauterize, or any thing equally inconsistent, and he is justified. Indeed we cannot see any chance of redress, owing to the almost total neglect of the people on the important subject of medicine.

It must be admitted by every reflecting mind that the subject of medicine is worthy of investigation, as our health and lives are in a great measure closely allied to a proper knowledge of its great importance. Every individual who permits himself to be ignorant of medical knowledge, exposes his life to a banditti, who are "regularly" drilled and legalized to go out into the world and experiment on human life.—It is a duty we owe our God, ourselves and families, to exercise our reasoning faculties, in order that we may not only benefit ourselves but those of our species. No one can be injured by investigating a subject that is worthy of attention, especially that of medicine. The science of health and the promotion of human happiness, is a matter too closely allied to our earthly felicity to be neglected. And yet we are sorry to say that a blind prejudice prevents thousands, yea, millions, from examining into this subject. If the enjoyment of health is a blessing, why should any man remain ignorant of the means whereby it may be attained.

From the Same.

We copy the following from the Botanico-Medical Recorder, together with the remarks of its editor. The preservation of animals would certainly add to the comforts of human life, and whatever information can be elicited on this subject, should be received without a false delicacy engendered by pride and ignorance.

SIR: Since last February I have embraced every opportunity of becoming thoroughly versed with therapeutic principles, and, I trust, not in vain. I have had considerable practice, not

only in my own family, but others; I might report several interesting cases, but I pass on and remark, that my experience proves—

That, in general, whatever is calculated to remove disease in man, will remove disease in other animals.

Now, I am confident many of your readers will say "Poh!" but that does not uproot my postulate. Let them test this doctrine, and see if it is not true. I ask such, if the laws governing man's physical nature, and those governing animals of a lower grade, are not very nearly, if not quite or exactly the same? If, then, they are subject to the same laws, when in health; why will not the same means which cure man when sick, cure them.

If some Thomsonians I wot of, believed in this as I do, they would not, when a horse foundered, bleed him till he staggers, nor drench him with poisonous drugs till his system was filled with them. They would not, when an ox is attacked with the "bloody murrain," which is a species of flux, drench him with saltpetre, stramonium, salts, copperas, &c. No. But instead, they would use about the same medicines then, that they would in a similar disease in man. Were this plan carried out, in nine of such cases out of ten, persons would be successful. Is this the case under the "starving, phisicing, bleeding" mode of treatment. Let facts answer. About nine out of ten die.

Not long ago I was travelling—my horse foundered very badly—"bleed, bleed," was the cry. "No, no," said I. I took half a pound of black pepper, (could not get cayenne,) a quarter ditto of gum myrrh, a quarter ditto of composition, and put them in a quart of boiling water. When it was luke warm, I added six table-spoonsful of lobelia and gave it. In about ten minutes more he walked a hundred yards, and in a quarter of an hour afterwards, he ate a large bunch of hay. The next day he carried me twenty miles with ease, apparently free from disease. One thing is singular—he did not vomit.

Yours, respectfully,

M. H. ABBOTT.

Vandalia, Oct. 29, 1840.

This is good and true, friend Abbott. We also once cured our horse of what was believed by good judges to be the botts, by drenching him with molasses, milk, composition, and cayenne. ☞ A horse never vomits, we believe; but lobelia is an excellent medicine for him notwithstanding. We, too, have been astonished at the inconsistency of botanics in bleeding and poisoning their horses.—[Ed. Botanico-Medical Recorder.

AN APPEAL TO MOTHERS.

Much has been said to mothers on the education of children, and much which ought to be imprinted on the heart, as with the point of a diamond. But there is one part of the lesson, which, if noticed at all, has been superficially glanced over, as tangible only to the physician and anatomist: I mean the mechanism, in all its bearings and uses, and the best helps to keep its ten thousand strings in harmonious tune.

The untiring assiduity with which the mother watches over the tender infant, is a strong indication that nature has peculiarly adapted her for an office which no one can so effectually fill. Yet thousands have withered in the mother's arms, and generations have gone down to the dust, not by neglect, but through profound ignorance of the simplest and plainest laws of our nature; *simplest*, because it does not require the ingenuity to trace nature in her untrammelled windings, that it does to devise the artificial helps, which serve only to retard her healthy progress, and pervert all her rational laws. When the watchful mother sees the high flushed cheek, and feels the accelerated pulse, what does she do? She immediately sets about devising specifics; and when this and that fails, she applies to her physician, without scarcely thinking of inquiring the cause, which requires not half the skill to trace, as to seek out effectual remedies.

Disease does not come by miracle. Look at the vegetable kingdom. Does the shooting tree ever wither, in its first putting out, without some blighting frost—some scorching fire—some worm at the root—or some knife of the mischievous truant is applied? No! It blooms on beneath the genial sun and distilling dews, till matured in the wide-spreading tree, lodging the fowls of the air, giving shade to the way-worn traveller, and braving the tempests of years, and sometimes centuries. So in the animal kingdom. The lamb frolics in the meadows; the birds sing and hop among the branches; and do they feel pain? No: unless tamed and domesticated by man, they are free as the air they inhale, and their blood is as pure as the water they love. And should you, mothers, love to see your little ones sporting about you in the sunshine of health; should you love to see their beaming eyes kissing the first dawning of light, with the happy lark; should you delight to see their expanding minds drinking copious draughts at the perennial fount of knowledge, with untiring zeal? you may have it so, if you will; only learn that "nature's wants are few." And do you ask what they are? They are the pure breezes of heaven; the limpid waters that emanate from ten thousand hills;

the nectarine milk from the lowing herds; the blushing orchards and the whitening harvests of grain, to provide bread "to strengthen man's heart." These are the rich bounties of Heaven, scattered with a liberal hand wherever the industry of man has been applied, and they bring no alloy.

But does the mother ask, "How am I to secure all these blessings of health to my children, unless I am a physician?" Then be a physician. This is no difficult task. A few simple lessons are to be learned, and the work is done; and these lessons are almost, if not entirely, inherent in our natures.

When the infant is put into the mother's hands, what does the Master say? "Take this child and bring it up for me. It is the chief of all my work. I have 'fenced it about with bones and sinews.' I have clothed it with flesh. I have placed sentinels at every dangerous post. I have provided food convenient for it, and I gave it a mind, to inhabit the temple, and to you I commit this charge. See that you mar not my handy-work."

Now, what is the mother to do? If she be a judicious one, or one of common observation, she knows that milk is the wholesome nourishment provided for all its wants: she knows that this alone will give proper strength, and facilitate its growth; she knows that the body must be washed in pure water; that it must have quiet sleep, and be kept free from ligatures, so that its breathing may be free and the growth natural. Now, as I am speaking to the judicious mother, let me ask, what more does her infant want in the first month of its existence? Does the regular moving machinery need any tonics, any decoctions of tea, coffee, or warm toddy, to accelerate its motions? Does the healthy throbbing of its little heart need any urging forward, or its tender brain want steeping in any of these fumes? Let common sense answer. Let the aborigines of any country answer, who have followed nature in all its bearings. Then, as this is all the needed medicine, can you not be the physician? But you ask, "what if my child be sick, if the nourishment I give it be pure, and the body be properly washed and clad? As before has been observed, disease does not come by miracle. God has fixed the laws of nature, and, in fixing them, he has said, "Hitherto shalt thou go and no further." And why should he pervert these laws, or work miracles to counteract them, when he once pronounced the work very good?" Why should he delight in rocking to and fro his unparalleled workmanship, dashing it in pieces, and peopling grave-yards with infants a span long? Be assured, "from the beginning it was not so."

The watchful nights of the anxious mother, over the cradle of her sick and dying child, were "few and far between," if known at all, in the days of Abraham and Sarah; and the mother in these latter days may learn, when she has followed nature's path in the first dawns of life, she may safely advance from infancy to childhood, and from childhood to manhood. She may provide wholesome bread of her own making, good vegetables, fruit, and milk; she may inure it to early morning air, to frequent ablutions, and regular exercise; and she may do more to subdue the passions, regulate the judgment, and fix permanent principles of virtue, than all the moral lectures and rods ever have done or will do.—[Nature's Own Book.]

From the New Orleans Daily News.

THE TWO SYSTEMS CONTRASTED.

People who are observing, and all who have ever suffered themselves to think much on the subject of Medicine, are readily convinced that the science, as it is taught and practised at the present day, is not only imperfect but very erroneous. They tell me it is of no use to prove to them that the common course is wrong, if I do not show them what is right, and prove it to them by fair demonstration—and they will say, "If you are right, why do you not lay before the public a fair and plain statement of the whole truth, in a clear and irresistible light, that will at once silence all opposition?" I will request those candid and impartial people just to consider that if any, or every truth, on every important subject were to be rejected till all opposition should be silenced, there would at once be an end to the march of intellect. No person attains to a knowledge of any valuable truth, without the labor of thinking for himself. If the operations of steam power, when it propels the majestic steamboat against the mighty flood of the Mississippi, were as invisible to mortal eye as the minute organs of the animal system, and the *modus operandi* of medicine on them, I presume that invaluable source of mechanical power would have remained forever unknown to mankind. We reason much from facts, and so we must; but it is no easy matter to understand the nature of the facts which we reason from, or upon what principles those facts are established. I will give a brief account of some such cases as frequently occur, that we may compare different cases, and learn to be cautious of making hasty conclusions.

Two men of similar conditions and habits are alike exposed to such influences as produce disease, and they are alike taken sick; one of them applies to a Thomsonian physician, who treats him according to his invariable routine; it proves

congenial with nature; every suspended function is resumed; all morbid irritation is allayed; the vital action is equalized through the whole system, and health is established speedily, and the patient cannot realize that he has been in danger. But the other applies to a graduate of the school, who makes use of such means as he has been taught to use in such a case; he reduces at once the vital powers, which are already too low, or the patient would not have been sick. He prescribes medicine which would of itself produce disease if given to a well man, and the patient grows worse—he goes on for several weeks, till the powers of vitality are nearly exhausted, and nature submits by a sort of compromise to the reigning power of disease, which now assumes a chronic form, in this low state hardly perceptible; and the patient begins slowly to convalesce. After some weeks he is able to crawl about, with the appearance of a masked skeleton; and his powers of utterance are employed with zeal in praise of his physician, who has had such a wonderful encounter with the powers of disease and death, and has finally saved him from the grave; and probably the whole circle of his friends and acquaintances will respond to it. Nobody thinks that the other, or his medicine, deserves any credit; his patient was not sick: every one can see that there is a great difference in the two cases, but every body does not see that the different treatment has made all the difference. Yet, such is the real fact.

See then how truth is enveloped in obscurity. I will relate another case, the like of which has been witnessed by thousands of intelligent people in this country.

A man was attacked by a violent fever, and his physician was a respectable and scientific practitioner, but all his efforts to allay the morbid excitement failed. The vital powers were sinking, and the irritability of the stomach was such that no palliating medicine or nutriment could be retained; blisters, cups, and leeches were applied without benefit, and life was sinking faster than disease, and the symptoms were judged altogether unfavorable; nature was supposed to be below the point of reaction, and the physician was not disposed to do any more—his skill was exhausted. About that time a Thomsonian was introduced by some friend, and he was permitted to give the patient some medicine. It produced great agitation and vomiting immediately; but in a few minutes the patient was more composed and easier than before, and a more lively glow suffused his countenance; his eyes seemed to sparkle with the spirit of returning life, and hope began to beam from those of his friends around him. Shortly after, more of the same medicine was given, and

some bland nutriment, which was retained a few minutes and then emitted as before—his pulse became mild and elastic—his skin soft and velvety; and from that time he was convalescent and soon recovered. It was the general opinion of people then, that the physician would be convinced that the Thomsonian took the right course, and one that should have been resorted to in the first stages of the malady. But the physician did not think so—he acknowledged that he was in a mistake as to the condition of the patient—the disease was most formidable and appalling; but, in his view, it had subsided, and the exact time of the crisis had escaped his notice.—Nature only wanted a little time to recover itself, and the organs to resume their functions! But observe, he had declared before that he knew all about the medicines which Thomsonians use, and asserted that, in such a case as the above, whether the crisis had passed or not, such medicine would prove absolutely fatal! He knows something now, however, that he did not know before, but it only induces him to invent new sophistries, like a partizan politician, to support his inconsistency.

WM. RIPLEY.

THE WAY TO GET WELL QUICK.

SIR: On the morning of the 29th of October, my next door neighbor sent for me in haste. I went, and found him laboring under a severe pain of the left side; unable to move in bed without extreme suffering. An old school M. D. was sitting by the fire. "How do you think bleeding, steam, and lobelia, would go together this morning?" said my friend, the regular. "Not at all," said I; "it is too much like mixing horse-racing and praying together." "Well," continued he, "I think if the patient was relaxed with lobelia, it would probably relieve him." I agreed with him, and accordingly administered a course of medicine—the patient was relieved.

The sequel of the case is this. It was the day before the Presidential election, and the patient and M. D. were both politicians of the same party. The next day an important contest was to be decided, and it was expected that every man's vote should tell in favor of his party. If the patient was bled and blistered, he would not be able to walk to the polls. There was more hope and less risk from the steam and lobelia practice: it was resorted to, and told in favor of the health of the patient, and enabled him to tell in favor of his favorite party. Let those who have not time to undergo bleeding, blistering, &c., remember the wise choice of this patient and M. D., and "go and do likewise."—[Bot. Med. Rec.

THE HOUR OF DEATH.

BY FELICIA HEMANS.

Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the North-wind's breath,
And stars to set—but all,
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, oh, Death !

Day is for mortal care,
Eve for glad meetings round the joyous hearth,
Night for the dreams of sleep, the voice of pray'r,
But all for thee, thou mightiest of the Earth !

The banquet hath its hour,
Its feverish hour of mirth, and song, and wine ;
There comes a day for Grief's o'erwhelming
power,
A time for softer tears—but all are thine !

Youth and the opening rose,
May look like things too glorious for decay,
And smile at thee !—but thou art not of those
That wait the ripen'd bloom to seize their prey !

Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the North-wind's breath,
The stars to set—but all,
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, oh, Death !

We know when moons shall wane,
When summer birds from far shall cross the sea,
When autumn's hue shall tinge the gold'n grain—
But who shall teach us when to look for thee !

Is it when Spring's first gale
Comes forth to whisper where the violets lie ?
Is it when roses in our paths grow pale ?
They have one season—all are ours to die !

Thou art where billows foam,
Thou art where music melts upon the air ;
Thou art around us in our peaceful home,
And the world call us forth—and thou art there !

'Thou art where friend meets friend,
Beneath the shadow of the elm to rest ;
'Thou art where foe meets foe, and trumpets
rend
The skies, and swords beat down the princely crest.

Leaves have their time to fall ;
And flowers to wither at the North-wind's breath,
And stars to set—but all,
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, oh, Death !

PRINTERS GRATUITIES.—No class of mechanics, perhaps, suffer more from the predatory and begging habits of individuals, than printers. They work so hard, invest so much, and furnish their papers so low, that people really seem to think that they actually are worth nothing but to be given away, or taken without leave. Accordingly, nothing is more common than for people who have the curiosity to read something that happens to be particularly interesting,

or who wish to send a newspaper to a friend as a token of remembrance, to run into a printing office, and ask for, or take, a paper just out of the press, and if the printer should think of taxing him any thing for it, the customer would think himself quite insulted by the niggardliness of the stingy printer! With what other mechanics or business men would people think of taking the same liberties? Go into the grocery and ask the retailer to give you a fourpence-ha'penny's worth of tea, coffee, or sugar, unless you are really an object of charity, he would probably think himself the one imposed upon. Or visit a bookstore and make off with a half dozen sheets of writing paper, and most likely the proprietor will pursue his customer with a writ of petit larceny. Go into a joiner's shop, and ask him to give you six cents worth of his wares, and you will feel as if you were engaged in a cheap business. And yet people will enter a printing office, take six cents worth of a printer's labor, and really think it one of that sort of things which should be given away; because the paper is *printed*. A clean *white* sheet he would think too valuable to be extracted without pay; and yet it costs a printer twenty-five dollars every week to set up the types that are impressed upon the sheet to make it *worthless*! No—no—this is not the way to do business. If you want a paper and will not subscribe for it, as all honorable men do, just step into the office and laying down a silver bit, say—"Sir, if you please, let me have one of your papers, and take that to pay for it." You will be readily accommodated, and then be seated, [not looking over the shoulder of the compositor to read his manuscript,] or retire and read your own paper like a man of good conscience and honorable principles.—[Maine Cultivator.]

SHAKE UPON SHAKE.—An apothecary, at Newcastle, having a patient lying at death's door, sent him a bottle of medicine and wrote upon the label, "when taken to be well shaken." Next day, he repaired to his patient's house, and inquired of the servant who opened the door, how his master was? The servant shook his head. "What, is he worse?" said the apothecary: "did he take the draught?" "Yes sir," was the reply. "Well, what then, John?" "Why, then, sir, we shook him once." "*Shook him?* what! shake a patient? why, a shake wont do, sir." "No sir, so we thought, and therefore shook him *twice*!" "Why, man, that would make him still worse." "So it did, sir," said John, "and then we tried a *third shake*!" "A third! zounds! and what then?" "Why, then, sir, master *died*!"

[From the Saturday (English) Magazine.]

BENJAMIN WEST.

When an individual is born with a peculiar talent for any profession or pursuit, the outbreaks of nature are generally manifested at intervals from the earliest years. The first occasion for the manifestation of the genius of young West, was when he was seven years old. Being placed with a fly-flap in his hand to watch the sleeping infant of his eldest sister, as he sat by the cradle the child smiled in its sleep: he was struck with its beauty; and, having procured some paper, drew its portrait in red and black ink. His mother, returning into the house, snatched up the paper, which he sought to conceal, and exclaimed to her daughter, "I declare, he has made a likeness of our little Sally."—The drawing was shown to her husband; and the belief occurred to him that the boy would one day be very eminent. Soon after this he was sent to school, and, during his hours of leisure, was permitted to draw with a pen and ink. As yet he had never seen an engraving or a picture; for neither these nor professors of painting were at that time entertained at Springfield, in Pennsylvania, where West was born and brought up. When, however, he was about eight years old, a party of Cherokee Indians paid their summer visit to Springfield; and, being much pleased with the rude sketches which the boy had made of birds, fruits and flowers, they showed him some of their own workmanship, and taught him how to prepare the red and yellow colors with which they stained their weapons; and when his mother gave him a piece of indigo, he was enabled to prepare the different colors necessary for his drawings. But he was at a loss how to lay these colors nicely on, until he was told by a neighbor that the painters of Europe used brushes made of camel's hair. These being entirely out of his reach, he cut off a quantity of fur from the back and tail of his father's cat, with which he formed pencils. This depredation being frequently committed, his father observed the altered appearance of the cat, and lamented it as the effect of disease, until at length his son confessed the practices he had resorted to.

At length the genius of young West drew the attention of Mr. Pennington, a merchant of Philadelphia, who sent him a box of paints and pencils, with some canvass prepared for the easel, and six engravings by Grevling. West placed the box on a chair at his bedside, and was unable to sleep. He rose with the dawn, carried his canvass and colors to the garret, hung up the engravings, prepared his palette, and began to copy. For several days he omitted to present himself at school, and labored se-

cretly and incessantly without interruption; but on the complaint of his master, his mother proceeded to his *studio*; but her rising anger subsided when she looked upon the performances of her boy. He had avoided mere copyism, and had produced a picture composed of two of the engravings, telling a new story, and colored with a skill and effect which was to her surprising. "She kissed him," says Galt in his memoirs, "with transports of affection, and assured him that she would not only intercede with his father to pardon him for having absented himself from school, but would go herself to the master, and beg that he might not be punished. Sixty-seven years afterwards, the writer of these memoirs had the gratification to see this piece in the same room with the outline painting of Christ Rejected, on which occasion the painter declared to him that there were inventive touches of art in his first and juvenile essay, which, with all his subsequent knowledge and experience, he had not been able to surpass." It was the highest pleasure of Mr. West, in after years, to declare emphatically, that the kiss which his mother gave him, decided him to be a painter.

FACTS ABOUT FIRES.

Why do some chimneys smoke?

Because the wind is too much let in at the mouth of the shaft, or the smoke is stifled below, or there is too little room in the vent, particularly where several open into the same funnel. The situation of the house may likewise affect them, especially if backed by higher buildings.

Why does water thrown on brisk and flaming fire apparently increase the combustion?

Because the water is converted into steam, which expanding and mixing with the flame, causes it to spread out into a much larger volume than it otherwise would have occupied.—[Arnot.

Why does sunshine extinguish a fire?

Because the rays engage the oxygen which had hitherto supported the fire.

Why does a fire burn briskly and clearly in cold weather?

Because the air being more dense, affords more nourishment to the fire.

Why do vegetables, stalks, &c., burn briskly?

Because of the quantity of carbon which they contain.

Why does flour of sulphur thrown into a fire-place, extinguish a chimney when on fire?

Because, by its combustion, it affects the decomposition of the atmospheric air, which is consequently annihilated.

Why are strong flames often seen at the chimney top of foundry furnaces?

Because the heat of the furnace is so great, that the smoke burns on reaching the oxygen of the atmosphere.

Why is it evident that coal is derived from vegetation?

Because there are few coals but that present more or less of a woody texture, to be traced from the bitumenized wood, which still bears, though approaching in its nature to coal, the trunk, the branches, and even the very leaves of trees, through all the varieties of coal, into the most compact slaty kind, of the oldest formation.

Why is charcoal sometimes found among coal?

Because the slate which covers the coal layers takes fire, in consequence of its containing sulphur in such minute division as readily to attract oxygen and inflame, thus converting vegetable remains into charcoal.

This curious fact is recorded by Dr. Richardson, the naturalist, in Franklin's Expedition of Discovery, respecting the shale on the coasts of the Arctic Sea. This shale composed precipitous banks, which in many places were on fire.

Why do fatal accidents happen from the burning of charcoal in chambers?

Because of the abundance of carbonic acid gas extricated during the combustion.

Why are the inside of water casks charred or slightly burned?

Because the charcoal thus produced in the casks, keeps the water sweet, and in some measure preserves the wood from the influence of damp.

Why are long, shallow stove grates uneconomical?

Because the body of the coal is not soon heated, and requires to be oftener replenished, to keep up the fire.

Why is the extreme heat of stoves for heating rooms, pernicious to health?

Because, if the temperature be thus raised much higher than 300 deg. Fahrenheit, the animal and vegetable matter, which is found mechanically mixed at all times with the air, will be decomposed, and certain elastic vapors and fluids produced, of a deleterious quality and peculiar smell. The matter here alluded to is very visible to the naked eye in a sunbeam let in a dark room.

Why do flint and steel when struck together produce a shower of sparks?

Because small portions of one or both are struck off by the violence of the collision, in a state of white heat, and the particles of the iron burn in passing through the air; in a vacuum the heated particles are equally produced, but are scarcely visible from this combustion not occurring. In both cases they suffice to inflame gunpowder, or to light tinder.

YANKEE TRICK.—During the Revolutionary war two brothers, from one of the eastern ports, were eminently successful, doing great damage to the enemy and making money for themselves. One evening being in the latitude of the shoals of Nantucket, but many miles to the eastward of them they espied a large British vessel having the appearance of a merchantman, and made toward her; but to their astonishment found her to be a frigate in disguise. A very high breeze prevailing, they hauled off in different directions. One only could be pursued, and the frigate gained rapidly upon him. Finding he could not run away, the commanding officer had recourse to stratagem. On a sudden he hauled down every sail, and all hands were employed with setting poles, as if shoving his vessel off a bank! The people on board the frigate amazed at the supposed danger they had run, and to save themselves from being grounded, immediately clawed off and left the more knowing Yankee "to make himself scarce" as soon as night rendered it prudent for him to hoist sail in a sea two hundred fathoms deep.

THIN SHOES.—We ask the attention of our lady readers to the following paragraph from the Philadelphia North American:

A summer birds that has lingered into the autumn, leaving its timid foot-prints in the first fall of snow, ever reminds us of that delicate fair one, in light thin slippers on a cold icy pavement. The bird however can escape to a warmer clime, and in the spring it can reappear; but the lady is on that journey from which there is no return. The music of the bird may again gladden its native tree; but her voice will not again cheer the hearth of her home. The badges of sorrow and the slowly returning hearse will soon tell what that slipper has done. It has taken from us in the bloom of life one that we loved, but who would not listen to the voice of admonition. Her bright days are now passed; the light of her countenance is fled, and the night of the grave curtains the deep couch of her repose. But a voice speaks tenderly from that grave to those whom she has left behind; it whispers the admonition which she disregarded. Shall that whisper not be heard? It is a sisters voice that pleads.

MAXIMS.—Be prudent, but not mean—count the half cent with a narrow-minded person, but deal liberally with one of a generous disposition.

Never praise a man to his face—if he be wise you will put him to shame; if a fool, you will fill him with vanity.

Respect every one for what *they* are, and not what they are worth.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the *New Guide*. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, FEBRUARY 15, 1841.

☞ Every subscriber who did not return the first number of the Manual, previous to the publication of the second, is considered under obligation to pay for the whole volume. We mention this, as a number of papers have been returned within a week or two, marked "not wanted," or "please stop." In several instances, those to whom these papers had been sent, are still in debt for the previous volume; and certainly, were they willing to "do as they would be done by," they would first have paid up, and then, if they did not want our sheet, have returned No. 1. in gentlemanly order. But as it is, some of the first numbers have never been returned—while two, three, and four, have—looking for all the world as if the whole family had read them, and then loaned to the neighborhood. But it will not do, they must pay for the volume.

For the benefit of those who may be ignorant of what the law requires of them in such cases, we publish the following:—

IMPORTANT DECISION.—Judge Thompson, of Indiana, at a late sitting of the Circuit Court, at which he presided, gave the following decision: That if a subscriber to a periodical failed to notify the Editor to discontinue the paper at the end of the term subscribed for, or pay up the arrearages, he was bound for another year.

☞ We copy the following from the "*Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel*," that our readers may see in what light the proprietor of the "*New England Thomsonian Depot*" is regarded abroad.

GULLIBILITY.

The propensity for gulling mankind, is perhaps in no instance more remarkably displayed than in that of the title of the "true" Thomsonian, and

that of "pure," "genuine," "unadulterated," Thomsonian medicines. It appears that Dr. Thomson is about being superseded in Boston by an individual who comes forth as the "true" disciple of the Thomsonian system, and the *only* manufacturer of "pure," "genuine" Thomsonian medicines in that city, and it is to be presumed, in the whole world! Dr. Thomson is, by this pretender to genuine purity, but a counterfeit! This is far surpassing any thing of the nature of gullibility we have ever witnessed or read of. A man sets himself up in the neighborhood of the original discoverer of the Thomsonian system, and in open day declares him a counterfeit! a vender of spurious medicines! and himself the *true* Thomsonian!

Perhaps it would not be amiss to make an apology to our readers for noticing an attempt so flagrant as that exhibited by the author of the famous placard, a copy of which was handed us by a friend, requesting our attention thereto. We observed, on receiving it, that we hardly thought it worthy a notice, on account of the author claiming the title of "pure," "unadulterated," etc., etc., and that too in opposition to Dr. Thomson himself, the discoverer of the system and medicines that bear his name. Such absurdity it would be presumed would detect itself, and its author receive just punishment from an enlightened community, but when we see men who occupy the station of editors of public journals, thus injuring the cause of suffering humanity, and professing to aid the system of Dr. Samuel Thomson, we are in our official capacity called upon to do our duty, and, if possible, arrest the injury that the cause might under such circumstances sustain. When an individual has the impudence to declare himself the *true* Thomsonian and Dr. Thomson but a mere pretender! a counterfeit! it is presumable, as far as our judgment leads us, that his pretensions are strongly to be suspected. Dr. Thomson should above all other men be the last to be charged of manufacturing spurious medicines, or being incompetent to administer his remedies to remove disease. Yet we have arrived at an epoch in the history of his system that we believe to be without a parallel. We read in sacred history of anti-christs—but we are totally at a loss to find in medical history a parallel to that of the proprietor of the "*New England Thomsonian Depot*," who sets himself up as the vender of *pure* Thomsonian medicines, under the pretence to accommodate the public, they not having an opportunity before of obtaining unadulterated medicines! We have heard many curious stories related of mongrels,

and have often been astonished how ignorant pretenders could procure patronage, but the "New England Thomsonian Depot" goes ahead of mongrelism, for it attacks the founder of the system in his very threshold, and endeavors to claim a superiority over him in what he has toiled and labored amidst persecution and trial to bring before the world for the benefit of mankind. O, shame! where is thy blush! The celebrated book-maker, (or would be at least,) who played off his deception not long since in this city, would scarcely be an actor in this scene of open depravity and barefaced impudence in attempting to reduce the reputation of Dr. Thomson, when it is evident that the motive that prompts to such a measure, is founded on self-aggrandisement! Dr. Thomson is old, and the infirmities of age are no doubt sensibly creeping upon him, and it may be that the present tirade of abuse is intended as a stimulus to creep into his business in season.

One circumstance is very remarkable belonging to this New England Thomsonian Depot, which is worthy of noticing before closing. It mostly happens that every individual who has disagreed in business matters with Dr. Thomson, has thereafter deviated, or pretended to, from that of the true mode of administering the Thomsonian remedies, and in many instances have become noted venders of quack nostrums, together with a peculiar desire of *trying* other means than those they had employed *when* under the influence of a good conscience and the evidence of experience obtained by their former practice. Indeed, it has appeared to us that the *change* has been wrought by no other influence than that of gain. For example—all we ever witnessed to deviate from the original plan of using the Thomsonian remedies, have soon after become mongrels, and pursued a *mixed* practice, and if they sold medicine, they were sure to manufacture quack nostrums and impose them on those who were not aware of the deception; but it does not appear, so far as we have learned, that this modern puritan has followed in the footsteps of those who have preceded him; but on the contrary he sets himself up as the *true* Thomsonian, notwithstanding the opposition made by the mongrel tribe, even to the appellation of Thomsonian, wherever it could with the least decency be avoided. The word *Botanic* was the password by which opposition was manifested, but it appears that this title was not sufficient to maintain the influence which the Thomsonian system had wrought in the public mind, and therefore the original title, "Thomsonian," was, through necessity, obliged to be employed in some way, in order to creep in-

to public confidence. As a proof of this we have only to refer to many individuals who practice and sell medicine in this city; there is not an individual among the whole number calling himself a *Botanic*, who did not at the outset take upon himself the title of Thomsonian, and after raising his character as a physician by using the Thomsonian remedies, he has discovered, as many have imagined, that the title of Thomsonian was not fashionable enough for one who had acquired not only a living, but reputation as being a skilful if not a scientific practitioner. And, in regard to the sale of Thomsonian medicines, we can assure our friends and the public that every individual who sells quack nostrums is not to be trusted, as respects his sincerity, further than his private interest is concerned. A manufacturer of quack nostrums, is, of all men, the least to be depended on for honesty of purpose; and we are sorry to say that those who have honestly denominated themselves *Botanics*, would feel themselves disgraced by the company or association of such men as those who live by quackery, and are generally speaking, void of talent sufficient to enable them from being detected in their barefaced impudence and ignorance which has greatly injured the cause of Thomsonism, especially among those who are in the habit of suffering others to think for them.

Below will be found extracts of a letter from a friend in the State of New York. We publish them to show some of those people who are so loud and repeated in their cry against Dr. Thomson for the price he sets on his medicines, that every body does not join with them in their denunciations of the man who has done so much for the public good. The writer has spoken fairly as to the cost of medicines, and is correct as to the expense of the articles of which the medicines are compounded. Good medicines command a good price, but poor stuff can be afforded cheap.

We thank the gentleman for his criticisms on our labors, (in that portion of his letter not published,) and hope to benefit by them. We always consider that man our *true* friend who kindly tells us of our faults, as we suppose it is done for our good: but when a man reproves us in a multitude, we conclude it is done for the purpose of injuring us. We should like to hear from our friend often.

"DEAR SIR,—Believe me a firm friend to Dr. Samuel Thomson and his simple but successful method of practice. Since my first acquaintance with it, my attachment has been unshaken. I have in fact sympathized with its friends in the many stratagems set in motion for its destruction. But I

am now of the opinion that it has passed through its hottest fires, which has had a tendency to develop its tried friends and divulge the deep-laid machinations of its most inveterate foes. Were I nearer to you I would occasionally write a communication for the Manual."

"I have been examining for a short time past the loud cry of monopoly against the Doctor, for insisting that his agents shall *only sell medicine in his name* which he himself compounds. The result of my enquiry is—

"1st. It is fair. He has an undisputed right to know upon what conditions any person uses his name; and the only way safely to understand these conditions is, that the line should be drawn where the Doctor has set the stakes. Whatever medicines compounded by him and administered agreeably to his direction, he guarantees a healthful result, other things being equal.

"2d. It is advantageous to the agent. Look at one single article—Rheumatic Drops. He proposes to sell this article for three dollars per gallon. Now I have had some little experience in making this very useful medicine. I purchase good brandy at two dollars per gallon. My myrrh, if it be good, costs from ten to twelve shillings. This, together with the cayenne, will bring every single gallon a man makes in its aggregate cost to amount to all of three dollars and a half. When it is made it will fall short in measure all of one pint. This article made of cheaper spirits would *cost less*, to be sure, and in the end to me would be almost *worthless*. The other medicines compounded by him, I believe, will bear a proportion to the one above mentioned. If it be asked how he can afford them so cheap, I suppose the purchasing of articles at wholesale prices enables him to do this. Yours, &c., E. W.

Henrietta, (N.Y.) Jan. 7, 1841.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A THOMSONIAN.—No. IV.

In the month of June, 1837, I visited a brother in Auburn, N. Y. He had, some years previous, passed through all the tortures of the mineral treatment, being doctored some five or six years for "inflammation of the eyes." His eyes at length got well, but his constitution was ruined by the *scientific* practice; I therefore found him a ready convert to the simple, philosophical, and humane principles of medical reform as brought about by Dr. Samuel Thomson. I had been there

but a few days before an opportunity offered for giving a "practical illustration" of the doctrines of Thomsonism.

About 12 o'clock one night my brother called me up to see his little boy, six years old, who had disturbed the family with his cries. The day previous had been extremely hot, and the child had played most of the time in the yard, exposed to the scorching rays of the sun; and, as was his custom when at play, without his hat. He did not complain before going to bed, but refused eating any thing at supper time. When his father called me to see him, he was in a raging fever—talking incessantly, without knowing what he said. He insisted there was a great fire out on the green—that he was close to it and was burning up—and every few moments he would clap his hands up and exclaim, "O, my head!" We could not get a single rational answer from him to any question we put. He was completely delirious. His parents informed me that he was attacked in the same manner when about four years old, and was under the doctor's hands six weeks and just escaped with his life. They now wished me to do whatever I thought proper. We immediately made a fire, boiled some water, and put three or four stones to heat. I made a large bowl of composition, adding a heaping tea-spoonful of cayenne, and as soon as the stones were hot, took the child in my arms and seated myself in a chair, was covered with blankets and soon had a lively steam around us by placing a pan, containing vinegar and water into which was put one of the hot stones, between my feet—made the child drink, or rather poured down him a cup full of the composition. When I first took him under the blanket, it required my whole strength to hold him—he struggled continually, insisting he was burning up, and calling on his father to take him away from the fire; and every moment or two would exclaim about his head. In a very few minutes, however, he became quiet, and presently the perspiration started; when he immediately called me by name and asked what I was doing to him? I explained to him, by saying that he had been very sick, and I was steaming him to make him well. He was perfectly willing to remain with me—said his head ached very bad but the steam made it feel better. I kept him in the steam about 20 minutes, giving him freely to drink of the composition, and before I got through steaming him, he said his head was well, and commenced playing with me. I then wiped him thoroughly, put him in bed and placed one of the steaming stones to his feet, and in a few minutes he was sound asleep, and did not

awake until about seven o'clock the next morning.

As he then complained some of his head, and was a little feverish, I told his father that he ought to have a course of medicine, which he consenting to, I carried him through; and by 2 o'clock P. M. he was playing about house, and the next day was perfectly well.

Dr. H., (Thomsonian,) had commenced practice in Auburn a few months previous to my going there, and having performed a number of cures on old run-down patients of the M. D's., at his outset, he soon had more practice than he could attend to. I often called in to his office, and there had an opportunity of witnessing the beneficial effects of the Thomsonian remedies upon a variety of patients and forms of disease. One case I will here relate.

A gentleman called one morning, bringing his son, 14 years of age, who had been under the treatment of two of the most eminent physicians in that part of the country more than a year for a distressing complaint of the head and eyes. At times he was fairly crazy—nothing that had been done seemed to give him any permanent relief. He had been salivated, bled, cupped, leeches, and searated, but all of no avail. His eyes were, to appearance, like two balls of fire, and looked as if ready to burst. Speaking of his feelings, he said his eyes felt as big as hen's eggs, and as if they might break as easy. His father concluded to leave him with Dr. H. for a week, and see if the medicines would relieve him any—he had given up all hope of his being cured. The Dr. commenced giving him thorough courses of medicine, bathing his eyes frequently with witch-hazle tea and No. 6, and washing them thoroughly every morning with cold water, as directed in the New Guide. His head was relieved after the first course of medicine, and his eyes rapidly improved. I saw him every day through the week, during which time he took three courses of medicine, and at the expiration of the week, when his father came to see him, he said he was well, and ready to go home and work at haying. His father could hardly believe his own eyes when he looked upon those of his son. But a week before, he had left him almost distracted with pain in the head, nearly blind, and his youthful body bowed, as it were, to the brink of the grave. Now he beheld him restored to health, to sight, and his boyish spirits bursting forth at every word he uttered—all joy, happiness, and gratitude, for his speedy recovery, after a year's torture by disease and *scientific medical ignorance!* The Dr. said to him, "The day you came here you said your eyes felt as big as

hen's eggs, how large do they feel now?" "O," said he, "they feel about as small as peas." He went home with his father, worked all through haying, and then came back and took another course of medicine, thinking he had got a little cold, and returned again to work on the farm. I saw him a number of times during the summer, and he said his head did not trouble him at all; nor his eyes, except he took cold; and then the witch-hazle tea and No. 6 would quickly relieve them.

CASE OF A BRUISE.

Dr. S. Thomson—Sir—If this will be of any service to you, you are at liberty to make such use of it as will serve to promote your cause. In the first part of the summer (1836) I had a stick of timber fall on my left foot, which nearly mashed it to pieces; it soon became swollen to a degree that hardly could have been thought possible, and it remained in that condition for twelve days. I was then advised to bathe it in white ley, which I did at mid-day and before going to bed at night. I rested very well till about one o'clock in the morning, when I found myself in a sad condition. At the time I awoke, and attempting to move, I felt that something very serious was the matter, and soon found there was a very sore spot under my short ribs near my back bone, and also that my case was very alarming. I was obliged to be immediately raised up in bed, as I could not be sustained in any other position; and being sensible that all the putrefaction of the lame limb, with a tremendous flood of fever, was thrown upon my vitals, with severe pains streaming all over my stomach and bowels, and even to the roots of my tongue, which was an instigation of lock-jaw, I considered my condition, and concluding that by using your medicines was the only way to find relief, I immediately sent for Dr. Samuel Hebbard, who lived five miles distant, and procured his aid as soon as possible. Dr. H. gave me a lobelia emetic which immediately relieved my pain and soreness, and subdued my fever in a great measure. Holding up good courage, and full in the belief that the Thomsonian medicine was the best of any in the case of fever, I attended strictly to Dr. Hebbard's prescriptions, and in a few weeks was again restored to health, which I have enjoyed to this time.

Yours, respectfully,

WM. WATERS.

Lisbon, (Ct.,) March 12, 1839.

N. B.—This may certify that I am well acquainted with Dr. S. Hebbard and family, (he having been my family physician for the last five years) and do consider them honest, upright people, and can recommend him as a safe and trusty practitioner in

the medicine and mode prescribed by Dr. Samuel Thomson, and I can recommend Dr. S. Thomson's medicines to be the very best and the most consistent with human nature of any that I am acquainted with.

WM. WATERS.

CASE OF DYSPEPSIA.

This certifies that for a number of years I was afflicted with that form of disease called dyspepsia, and employed during the time a dozen or more *regular* physicians without receiving any benefit. When I first called on them for advice, I was able to be about and do some labor. I followed faithfully the prescriptions of my physicians one after another, until I had taken their whole routine of mineral poisons, exhausted their profound skill, growing worse and worse, and finally was abandoned by them as incurable, confined to my room and most of the time to my bed, expecting soon to be numbered with the things that are past. In this wretched and deplorable condition, as a last resort I was induced to repair to the much despised 'Thomsonian system of medicine for relief. No one, perhaps, previous to this, was more prejudiced against the system than myself. I had ever placed great confidence in the regular doctors, and believed that what they said must of course be true. I looked upon them as learned and scientific men, and supposed that in their scientific researches for ages past, they must have gained every thing known to be valuable in the amount and practice of medicine. On the other hand I ridiculed the idea of Thomsonian or *steam doctors*—believed them to be a set of ignorant and arrant quacks, imposing upon the credulity of the people. But I have learned by happy experience, that all is not gold that glitters. Learning and talents may give a high coloring to error, but cannot transform it into truth.

As I have already intimated, I was at last from necessity compelled to try the Thomsonian practice.—I sent for Dr. Samuel Hebbard; but it might even then be said of me, "O, ye of little faith." Dr. H. came and administered to me the medicines agreeably to the Thomsonian principle. He gave me eight courses of the medicine, which so far restored me, that after purchasing a Family Right, to use the medicine, I was enabled with his advice to take care of myself, and have recovered my health to such a degree that I consider myself comparatively a well man; can now build day after day four rods of stone wall, and do in like proportion any other labor. I esteem Dr. Hebbard as an efficient and skillful Thomsonian physician, and believe that he has been an instrument in connection with the Thomsonian medicines, of restoring me to health, and can with

confidence recommend his advice and services to the sick and afflicted.

SMITH BARBER.

Griswold, (Ct.,) Oct. 16, 1839.

For the Manual.

Mr Editor:

I can say no more to our friend, E. G. Vanceise, in case of Dropsy, than to persevere with pure Thomsonian medicines—keep up the inward heat and boil the water away. If any thing will cure it, a plenty of warming and canker medicines will.

No matter what way you give the juniper berries, whether in molasses or water. Give freely of cayenne—increase the heat in proportion to the cold, until you dispel it.

I cannot give any better directions than are laid down in the Guide to Health. Perseverance will overcome all obstacles.

SAMUEL THOMSON,
Per Nath'l S. Magoon.

I was called to a female the other day who had been very low, (they had the Right.) She had been salivated a number of times—seemed to be cold and dropsical, and could obtain relief in no way but by taking cayenne; and by that means was recovering. However, her husband was fearful lest she was taking *too much* cayenne, and sent for me on that account, a distance of fifty-five miles. She had taken from *five* to *ten* tea-spoonsful a day, and now could take no more than three. She is gaining very fast, and the dropsical symptoms disappearing.

N. S. M.

Boston, Feb. 12, 1841.

P. S. All the requisite notice of the *New Book* will appear in the Manual.

☞ The following extract of a letter shows how invaluable is Dr. Thomson's Guide to Health, notwithstanding all that some *wise* people have said of its not being what the public wanted, and of its inaccuracy. We doubt much whether any other book of the kind will ever be productive of the same amount of good, or give more general satisfaction, than the "New Guide to Health."

"DR. SAMUEL THOMSON—Sir:—I have been in possession of your New Guide to Health, for almost three years; and also Robinson's Lectures: and for the same period (having a family of seven) we have not had a regular doctor's attendance.—Have had some severe attacks of disease to encounter, but by closely following the "Guide," with attentive nursing, we have succeeded in curing all the complaints and diseases with which

we have been afflicted—they being not a few in number.

“May you see many more days, and each be a happier and more pleasant than the former.

“Yours, respectfully,
“DAVID CRAWFORD.”

Georgetown, (Brown Co., O.) Jan. 9, 1841.

THE MISSOURIUM.—This name has been given to a new species of antediluvian monsters, the skeleton of one of which has been discovered the last year in Benton co., Missouri. From a recent conversation with the gentleman who dug it up, we have gathered the following particulars respecting its discovery, and the enormous size and singular configuration of the animal:

The skeleton was dug up in the centre of a large spring, on the margin of a creek called Pomme de Perre, about four miles from the Osage river. An Indian tradition pointed to the existence of such an animal, as well as designated the exact spot where the bones were found. The Indians related, that in early times some enormous animals had fought a battle at that spot, and destroyed each other, and that the great Spirit had buried them under that spring. These animals, they said, destroyed the Indian and buffalo at a fearful rate.

The bones, in a good state of preservation, were found at a depth of from sixteen to twenty feet.—The skeleton is 32 feet long and 16 feet high; the depth of the carcass is 12 feet high, its breadth about 8 feet and it reaches within 3 feet of the ground. Its feet which were webbed, are four feet across the toes. The bone of the fore leg is 42 inches in circumference. The upper jaw is furnished with two tusks, one upon each side projecting horizontally, and at right angles with the jaw at first, and being afterwards turned back towards the sides of the animal. From point to point of these tusks, in a straight line, measure 15 feet. The head with the tusks, weighs one thousand one hundred pounds, each tusk weighing separately three hundred pounds. The upper jaw projecting over the lower fifteen inches. The animal is believed to have been amphibious. Arrowheads were dug up in the same spring, and human bones of gigantic size.

The gentleman who dug up the Missouriium intends to exhibit it through the principal cities in the United States and then proceed with it to Europe. It is now in St. Louis, whence he will take it immediately to New Orleans, and in March or April, will exhibit it in Louisville and Cincinnati, on his way to Philadelphia.—[Louisville Journal.

POWER OF LIBERATED GASES IN THE HUMAN BODY.—A woman, whose weight was about 230 pounds, died in this city not long since, of a dropsy of the heart. The body was placed in an ordinary coffin, the lid of which was screwed down in the usual manner, and afterwards deposited in a tomb. On the following morning the body had so swollen that all the screws were forced perpendicularly out, and the cover actually thrown off on one side. [Med. & Surg. Journal.

OLD HUMPHREY ON FITS.—Though no doctor, I have some excellent prescriptions, and as I shall charge you nothing for them, you cannot grumble at the price. We are most of us subject to fits; I am visited with them myself; and I dare say that you are also—so now for my prescriptions.

For a fit of passion, walk out in the open air.—You may speak your mind to the winds without hurting any one, or proclaiming yourself to be a simpleton.

For a fit of idleness, count the tickings of a clock. Do this for one hour, and you will be glad to pull off your coat the next, and work like a negro.

For a fit of extravagance and folly, go to the work-house, or speak with the ragged and wretched inmates of the jail, and you will be convinced,

Who makes his bed of brier and thorn,
Must be content to lie forlorn.

For a fit of ambition, go into the church-yard and read the grave-stones. They will tell you the end of ambition. The grave will soon be your bed-chamber, the earth your pillow, corruption your father, and the worm your mother and sister.

For a fit of repining, look about for the halt and the blind, and visit the bed-ridden and afflicted and deranged, and they will make you ashamed of complaining of your light afflictions.

For a fit of despondency, look on the good things which Nature has given and placed around you.—He who walks into her garden to look for cobwebs and spiders, no doubt will find them; while he who looks for a flower may not return into his house without one blooming in his bosom.

For all fits of doubt, perplexity and fear, whether they are a load to the shoulders, the head or the heart, the following is a radical cure which may be relied on for I had it from the great Physician:—“Cast thy burthen on the Lord, and he will sustain thee.”

SNOW.—Flakes of snow examined by a microscope appear to be regular crystals. Ninety-six varieties have been noted. The air contained in snow prevents it from being transparent as is the case with other crystalized substances. Snow has been seen near the north pole of a red or salmon color, and when falling has sometimes a luminous appearance. Accumulating in mountains, snow feeds the streams by gradually melting and running into the valleys. The air from snow-capped mountains cools the excessive heat of southern latitudes, while farther north the snow preserves vegetation from destructive heat.

GOOD ADVICE.—When you look at a distant object, and appear to see two, leave off drinking—you have had too much. When you knock over your glass, spill your wine upon the table or are unable to recollect the words of a song you have been in the habit of singing for the last dozen years, leave the company—you are getting troublesome. When you nod in the chair, fall over the hearth rug, or lurch on your neighbor's shoulder, go to bed—you are drunk,

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

Acton, Robert Chaffee
Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
Ashby, F A Kendall
Andover, John Harding
Andover, (Ballard Vale) Aaron P. Holt.
Ashby, Thomas Gibson
Colerain, Oscar J Martin
" Calvin W. Shattuck
Chesterfield, Amos Bisby
" Varnum Nichols
Danvers, Amos Trask, and J R Pattin
" Joseph Shaw Jr
" South Parish, James Worcester
Essex, Eli F Burnham
" E. B. Putnam.
Eastham, Scotter Cobb
Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
" M. O. Bradford
Gloucester, Samuel Friend
" Gideon Lane
" David E. Saunders
Harvard, J. Hosmer
Leveret, Myron Ashley
Lowell, Daniel Hutchinson
" Perkins H Dow
Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney
Milford, S Sumner
Middleborough, Rev A Briggs
South Andover, Jacob Jenkins
North Reading, Eben'r Eaton
" Thomas Abbot
North Andover, L. T. Presson
New Bedford, Prince Weeks
" " G. Nye
Newburyport, G W Goodwin
" J Blood
Orleans, Vickery Sparrow
Plymouth, Samuel Barnes
Reading, N K J Vinal
Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
Salem, R W Merrill
Springfield, Sirguy Noble
Sturbridge, D Mason
Stoughton, Luther Belcher
Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh
Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
Walpole, Williard Lewis
Waltham, J Shepley
Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
Camden, Thomas Annis
" William Merriam
East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon
Eastport, John Shackford
Frankfort, George Kimball
Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher
Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster
" M. M. ...
... respiration ; loss of ...

Machias, Wm. Smith
Norway, Jotham Goodnow
Portland, Daniel Sawyer
" Rev. C. D. Ffrench
Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
Ripley, Samuel A. Todd
Searsmont, Randlet Ness
Thomaston, Horatio Alden
Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, A. Watkins, and Bethuel Keith
Exeter, S. J. Perkins
Kingston, John Dearborn,
Langdon, Royal Shumway
Meredith, William M. Ladd
Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
New Hampton, James Jackson
Nashua, Jesse Whitney
Pembroke, Moses Martin
Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Bennington, George Boardman Jr
Chelsea, Benj. Grant
Charlemont, David Todd
Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
Dover, Daniel Leonard
East Randolph, P, Smith
Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
Halifax, S. Plumb
" Eben'r M. Clark
" Alvah Brooks
" John Reid, Esq.
Green River, Sam'l Cutting
Guilford, Henry Packer
" Philip Martin
Londonderry, J. Arnold
Randolph, Jehiel Smith
Woodstock, Nathan Cushing
" Jacob Holt
Whitingham, W. Goodnow
" Reuben Green
" Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson
New Haven, George Munson
Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson
New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev }
enth St., near 5th Avenue
Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
Troy, Ira Wood
Westport, J. K. French

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount, A. Willford

New Book.**TO THE THOMSONIANS OF THE UNITED STATES.**

The public mind has been agitated for two and a half years past, in relation to a revision of my Narrative and New Guide to Health, by Morris Mattson, who has had said work in hand for said purpose.

After the original time for said work to be completed had expired, I added seven months more of time, in order that no reasonable excuse could be offered, on his part, for not having the work complete. I also loaned Mr. Mattson \$1150 in cash, so that there should be no deficiency on my part, so far as money could facilitate the work. On the 1st of June, the time appointed for the completion of the work, the Narrative had not been commenced; the plates were not finished; and what was read of the description of the remedies, was defective. I therefore gave up the idea of Mr. Mattson being competent to put the work in complete order for publication, and concluded he did not design to do the work as agreed upon. I also found that the wants of the people were, that the Book should be written or compiled by a PRACTICAL man, *Mr. Mattson not being such.*

I therefore dissolved all connection with said Mattson, relative to the publication of said work; and shall now go on with it myself, assisted by my son, Dr. John Thomson, of the City of Albany, N. Y., and am in hopes to produce a work during the coming season, that will meet the approbation of the long disappointed community.

No pains will be spared to furnish a work that will meet the wants of the public. The Narrative will be embellished with a new Portrait of the Author, on steel—and the New Guide will contain numerous engravings of the principal plants used in the Thomsonian System of Practice, together with new remedies.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

From the Boston True Thomsonian of Sept. 15. 1840.

"We are sometimes asked whether Dr. M. [Mattson] intends to publish his work, on the supposition that Dr. Thomson's copy right is good for nothing. Dr. M. informs us that he does not know whether the copy right is good, or good for nothing. He does not intend to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson's book, and therefore will not violate his copy right, admitting its validity."

N. B. I am willing Mr. Mattson should publish his work, on the above condition—that is, if he does not copy from my book.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles* and *Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthen-

ing plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

✍ The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

✍ CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at two DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

✍ Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

** All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number
dec 15.
Go to bed—

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, MARCH 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 8.

From the Young Ladies' Journal.

SONNET ON TIGHT LACING.

TO AMERICAN MOTHERS.

If ye would crush the tree, before one flower
Hath made its fragrance or its fruitage known;
If ye would break the harp, before one tone
Hath told the compass of its varied power;
If ye would quench the lamp at twilight hour,
Or plant the brier where the rose had grown,
Or crush the statue in the incasing stone—
Then make the “CORSET CURSE” your daughter’s
dower!
But, oh, if ye revere your God’s impression,
Stamp’d on the human form! If ye would arm
Your sons against CONSUMPTION’S ghastly charm;
BANISH THIS VICE OF EVERY CHRISTIAN NATION!
And know that MURDER—in whatever form—
Of self, or offspring, is no slight transgression!

ANTIMONY.

The ancients were acquainted with this metal. Pliny informs us that it was found in silver ore. It generally contains a portion of arsenic. Basil Valentine, a monk, is the first who describes the process of extracting it from the ore. He, by the internal administration of it, poisoned his brother monks; hence its present name antimony, or anti-monk. No metal, not even mercury, has attracted so much of the attention of physicians as antimony: one party extolling it as an infallible specific for every disease; while another derided it as a most virulent poison, which ought to be expunged from the list of medicine. It is well known to every physician to be capable in the form of ointment of producing pustules or eruptions on the skin, and frequently produces painful, deep seated ulcerations, difficult to heal, when externally applied; and if so, how much more rapidly must it affect the tender coats of the stomach, when taken internally. Even in its combination with lime, as in the celebrated James’ Powders, its poisonous effects are not overcome, as it is incapable of being acted upon by alkalies. Tartarized antimony when given as an emetic, is evidently a fruitful source of chronic inflammation of the stomach, or dyspepsia. The poisonous effects which have been produced by it are a metallic taste; nausea; copious vomiting; colic; frequent stools; fainting; small, contracted, and accelerated pulse; cold skin; sometimes intense heat; difficult respiration; loss of sense; con-

vulsive movements; very painful cramps in the legs; prostration, and death. To these effects is sometimes added, difficulty of deglutition. Vomiting and purging do not always take place; and when they are absent, the other symptoms are aggravated.—Native Physician.

CANKER.

This false membrane has been frequently noticed by medical men, but it seems not once to have entered their minds that it is found in every modification of disease, either in its formative, its intermediate, or its matured state, from the preternatural action of the intestinal canal in Asiatic cholera, to its total inactivity in obstipation; from the slightest, to the most inflammatory fever. The untiring search of Thomson, however, discovered it in its secret haunt. Immediately he endeavored to find some remedy that would drag it from its lurking place, or, at least, prepare the way for its removal, and alter the vitiated condition of the secretions. This he found in the class of vegetable astringents, which he therefore denominated canker medicines.

To accomplish the ejection of this matter from the stomach, he knew emetics would be required; but when he recollected the protracted nausea, severe retching, copious, watery discharges, and lasting debility produced by the emetics in popular use, he determined on the adoption of one, namely, lobelia inflata, (to the discovery of the medical qualities of which chance had led him when young,) the operation of which would not be accompanied by any of these unpleasant effects. Keeping in view the great fundamental principles with which he first set out in his medical career, his choice was made with wisdom; for although he might not at that time have understood the *modus operandi* of this invaluable remedy, yet its effects on the human system fully correspond with those required by nature. As in all disease, there is a diminution of the vital heat, arising from the unequal distribution of the blood, and a consequent obstruction of perspiration, it was necessary that any emetic employed should be free from deleterious qualities, in order to relieve nature of the mighty pressure under which she groaned. Lobelia, as a relaxant, will expand the constricted blood vessels, thus allowing an unimpeded passage for the blood, teeming with

vivifying principles, and conveying to every part of the system the vital warmth with which it glows; while by directly stimulating the heart and arteries, it also increases the quantum of heat, thus determining to the surface, which likewise relaxed and excited to action, throws out through the process of perspiration those particles which should be ejected. As debility of the digestive organs prevails, to a greater or less extent, in every variety of disease, it became further indispensable to the promptness and permanency of cure, that the emetic should allay gastric irritability and assist the process of digestion. These important objects are answered by lobelia; as is manifested by the cessation of previous vomiting, and the desire for food, consequent on its operation.

Dr. Thomson informs us that whatever medicine acts beneficially when taken into the stomach, may also be exhibited advantageously by injection. Now, if we take into account the innumerable nervous filaments with which the intestines are supplied, and the extensive sympathetic impressions that may be made through them on the system generally, it will not appear surprising that he should have deemed injections of so great importance in the treatment of disease; nor that he should have infinitely preferred them to cathartics of every kind, which do but draw the determining powers inward, and thus retard the cure. In the class of disease now under consideration, the value of this mode of administering medicine cannot but be obvious. Clogged as are the absorbents, and inactive as are the muciparous glands of the bowels, and debilitated or preter-naturally excited as may be the intestinal exhalents, they require the direct application of remedies to obviate the difficulties under which they labor. Hence, canker medicines to remove the canker from the mouths of the absorbents, stimulants to rouse the inactive muciparous glands, tonics to strengthen, and sedatives to allay the excitement of the exhalents, may all be exhibited in this way.—[Dr. Fonerden.]

SIMPLICITY.

Those who admire simplicity love truth. Truth never seeks to be sheltered in mystery, she delights in simplicity, because it adorns her by laying all her beauties open to general inspection. The idea of employing ambiguous terms to elevate science, is incompatible with reason and the enlightenment of the people. Simplicity alone is best adapted to the diffusion of knowledge—it is the only principle that we can adopt to destroy error and redeem the world from medical bondage. Ages have slumbered and passed away under the tyrant power of

medical influence. Millions have perished by the employment of the lancet, and other means dictated under the influence of pretensions to science, and buried in terms that were not easy to comprehend even by those of learning. Thus has the great medical juggernaut fastened his imposition on the bulk of mankind, and became a mighty barrier to improvement and the progress of a simple and rational system of medicine. Wherever we cast our eyes, we behold the influence of a bloated profession ready to devour every thing that stands in opposition to its overgrown influence. But we must not be intimidated—the cause of Thomsonism is the cause of humanity—and founded on a rock that has stood the poisonous blasts of a combined force, and now bids fair to triumph over corruption and influence, and become the people's cause. Simplicity and truth are the fundamental principles upon which the system has been presented to the world by its venerable founder, and although unaided by Latin, Greek, Hebrew, or by parchment credentials, it has made its way through every opposition, and gained adherents in every part of the union. So much for the cause of truth and her ally simplicity.—[Phil. Thom. Sent.]

TRANSITIONS FROM HEAT TO COLD.

BY DR. BUCHAN.

The perspiration is commonly obstructed by sudden transitions from heat to cold. Colds are seldom caught, unless when people have been too much heated. Heat raises the blood, quickens the circulation, and increases the perspiration; but when these are suddenly checked, the consequences must be bad. It is indeed impossible for laborers not to be hot upon some occasions; but it is generally in their power to let themselves cool gradually, to put on their clothes when they leave off work, to make choice of a dry place to rest themselves in, and to avoid sleeping in the open fields. These easy rules, if observed, would often prevent fevers and other fatal disorders.

It is very common for people when hot, to drink freely of cold water or small liquors. This conduct is extremely dangerous. Thirst is indeed hard to bear, and the inclination to gratify that appetite frequently gets the better of reason, and makes us do what our judgment disapproves. Every person, however, knows, if his horse be permitted to drink his belly full of cold water after violent exercise, and be immediately put into the stable, or suffered to remain at rest, that it will kill him. This they take the utmost care to prevent. It were well if they were equally attentive to their own safety.

Thirst may be quenched many ways without swallowing large quantities of cold liquor. The fields afford variety of acid fruits and plants, the very chewing of which would abate thirst. Water kept in the mouth for some time, and spit out again, if frequently repeated, will have the same effect. If a bit of bread be eaten along with a few mouthfuls of water, it will both quench thirst more effectually and make the danger less. If any one has been so foolish, when hot, as to drink freely of cold water, he ought to continue his exercise at least till what he drank be thoroughly warmed upon his stomach.

[A swallow of hot drops or any of the warm medicines taken before drinking cold water, will effectually prevent any bad consequences.]

It would be tedious to enumerate all the bad effects which flow from drinking cold liquors when the body is hot. Sometimes this has occasioned immediate death. Hoarseness, quinsy, and fevers of various kinds, are its common consequences. Neither is it safe when warm to eat freely of raw fruits, sallads, or the like. These indeed have not so sudden an effect as cold liquors, but they are notwithstanding dangerous, and ought to be avoided.

Sitting in a warm room and drinking hot liquors till the pores are quite open, and immediately going into the cold air, is extremely dangerous. Colds, coughs, and inflammation of the breast, are the usual effects of this conduct; yet nothing is more common than for people, after they have drank freely of warm liquors, to walk or ride a number of miles in the coldest night, or ramble about the streets.

People are very apt, when a room is hot, to throw open a window and sit near it. This is a most dangerous practice. Any person had better sit without doors than in such a situation, as the current of air is directed against one particular part of the body. Inflammatory fevers and consumptions have often been occasioned by sitting or standing thinly clothed near an open window. Nor is sleeping with open windows less to be dreaded. That ought never to be done, even in the hottest season, unless the window is at a distance. I have known mechanics frequently contract fatal diseases by working stript at an open window, and would advise all of them to beware of such a practice.

Few things expose people more to catch cold than keeping their own houses too warm: such persons may be said to live in hot-houses; they can hardly stir abroad to visit a neighbor but at the hazard of their lives. Were there no other reason for keeping houses moderately cool, that alone is sufficient: but no house that is kept very hot can be wholesome; heat destroys the spring and elasticity of the air, renders it less

fit for expanding the lungs, and other purposes of respiration. Hence it is that consumptions and other diseases of the lungs prove so fatal to people who work in forges, glass-houses, and the like.

The result of all these observations is, that every one ought to avoid, with the utmost attention, all sudden transitions from heat to cold, and to keep the body in as uniform a temperature as possible; or where that cannot be done, take care to let it cool gradually.

People may imagine that too strict an attention to these things would tend to render them delicate. So far, however, is this from being my design, that the very first rule proposed for preventing colds, is to harden the body by inuring it daily to the open air.

"A man," says Celsus, "who is blessed with good health, should confine himself to no particular rules, either with respect to regimen or medicine. He ought frequently to diversify his manner of living; to be sometimes in town, sometimes in the country; to hunt, sail, indulge himself in rest, but more frequently to use exercise. He ought to refuse no kind of food that is commonly used, but sometimes to eat more and sometimes less; sometimes to make one at an entertainment, and sometimes to forbear it; not eat heartily without being able to digest it. He should be careful in time of health not to destroy, by excesses of any kind, that vigor of constitution which should support him under sickness."

[From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.]

BEWARE OF IMPOSITION.

It is of the utmost importance that the public should be acquainted with the gross imposition practised upon those who purchase medicine under the impression that they are receiving the Thomsonian remedies. We are daily annoyed in our travels with such an one having stept into this or that store in order to purchase Thomsonian medicine for cold, headache, indigestion, and various other complaints, and one having received such a remedy, another this, and another something else, for the same disease! And it is customary in some of these dens of mongrelism to sell for the use of worms, "worm syrup," "pills," and "castor oil" *to work it off!* These individuals may be easily detected in their foul deception, for although they are springing up in every direction in this city, no one can be decoyed by them who will for a moment reflect, that secret nostrums bear no part in the Thomsonian remedies, and that "alterative syrup," pills for purging, nostrums for dyspepsia, or any other particular malady, is

the invention of unprincipled quacks, in order to rifle the pockets of those who are insensible of the imposition. It would be a hard task to personify all the quackery that abounds in this city under the names "Botanic," "Botanic medicine," "Thomsonian Botanic," etc., for, as we have already stated, they are numerous.

Every individual who wishes to try the efficacy of the Thomsonian medicines, should bear in mind that it is necessary in the first place to obtain all the information possible from a source that confidence may be relied in; if this is not attended to, the probability is, that nine times out of ten, disappointment and chagrin will be the result.

We are aware of the apathy existing in regard to medical knowledge, and therefore the easy access to impose fraud and deception for science and medical skill. Thus it is that a band of tyros infest society, who not only prey upon the health and happiness of the human family, but their lives and fortunes are at their disposal.

The poor are those who are least able to bear the imposition of unprincipled quacks, and we pity them from our very soul. They are not only filched of their hard earnings by learned quacks, but their means of obtaining a livelihood, and it generally happens when having reached this crisis, that they are cast off by the doctor, pronounced beyond the reach of medicine! (when in fact they received nothing but poison! depletion!! and starvation!!!) and thus circumstanced, they are like a drowning man, eager to preserve life, they grapple at any thing that holds out the least inducement as a remedy. Now comes the lesser class of doctors, such as take up the profession without undergoing a regular routine of study.

The next class are those who doctor a little and attend to the sale of quack nostrums. This class is precisely in the situation of those who style themselves "Botanics" with us. They have a nostrum for this and a nostrum for that; a pill for this and a pill for that; a syrup for this and a syrup for that; a powder for this and a powder for that; a physic for this and a physic for that; besides all this they are very liberal and withal independent. They have no peculiar attachment to any system of medicine, they are therefore prepared to accommodate any one to their whims and notions, however they may vary from their own. By this means they calculate to accommodate all parties—for as they calculate on being paid for their services or medicine, the patient, and not themselves, must suffer. This may appear very liberal and independent to some at a single glance, but on examination it will be seen that a man who would thus act, is of all creatures the most pitiful. He

neither possesses dignity, honesty, or sensibility. This is evident from his manifesting no settled principle, other than that of accommodation either to himself or that of the whims of his deluded patient. A man who sets himself up to doctor, should undoubtedly possess knowledge sufficient to establish some uniform mode of practice. It is not the man we war against who has earned a diploma by long study to practice medicine, it is the practice itself that we oppose. But such is not the case when we speak of imposition as practised in this city by numerous pretenders who are considered by many Thomsonian physicians. When we speak of such, we not only mean to warn the public of their practice, but also of the men. We think it but just and honorable that those who practise what is called in this city the "Botanic practice," should imitate the unfortunate Dr. Chauncey, who publicly made known by advertisement that he had discarded the Thomsonian system, and that he had abandoned steam, &c., in his practice. Whatever may be said of Dr. Chauncey, we are not backward in giving as our opinion, that, in this particular, he certainly deserves credit, and we are sorry to acknowledge that we cannot even say this much of the host who practise under the same title he did, previous to his incarceration.

BATHING.

The bath, by cleansing the skin from impurities, contributes to the perfection of its function, and consequently to the health of digestion; and under certain modes of its application, a stimulating influence is imparted to the vascular and nervous systems, and consequently through them extended to all the functions. But the refreshment and alacrity that are usually experienced after judicious bathing, amply prove its utility. It is particularly requisite in hot weather, and when exposed to the dust, and other impurities existing in the atmosphere of crowded cities.

Bathing, however, is liable to abuse, and when extravagantly indulged in, and as a voluptuous gratification, may tend to enervate both mind and body. Such was its perversion, and such the necessary consequences, in the advanced days of Greece and Rome. Though the people of both these countries at first constructed their baths in reference to health and cleanliness, they at length became subservient to pride and sensuality. The ruins of ancient baths in Rome, as of Titus and Caracalla, as also in other parts of Italy, fully attest the height of luxury to which this gratification was carried. Those of Caracalla, for example, contained sixteen hundred cellæ, or bathing places,

beside labra, or immense bathing tubs of granite and porphyry, and the whole edifice was on a scale of the most splendid and costly magnificence. In Rome, it is said, there were eight hundred and fifty-six public baths, that is, such as might be used by the people free of expense; and some, as those of Dioclesian and Caracalla, were capable of accommodating near two thousand persons. Under the emperors, the taste was more particularly for the enervating enjoyment of the hot bath. "After the overthrow of the republic," says Dr. Currie, "the Romans consoled themselves for the loss of their freedom, by a more unbounded indulgence than ever in those sensual gratifications which had led to their fall. Of these, the pleasures of the bath formed a distinguished part; they sought every means of heightening and diversifying them, and connected them with other epicurean enjoyments. The mild and tepid immersion of the Greeks no longer satisfied them; they heated their baths to the utmost pitch of endurance; and as they rose reeking from their surface, vessels full of cold water were dashed over their naked bodies, as a high gratification in itself, and a means of stimulating the senses to gratifications still higher. Such practices could not, however, be continued without injury. In the bagnios of Imperial Rome, the last of the Romans, the followers of Zeno and of Cato, sought to soothe their sorrows, and were melted down into slaves; the powers of their minds became enfeebled, the vigor of their frames decayed, and they lost for ever the bold impressions of freedom and of virtue."—[Wm. Sweetser.

FREEZING.

When a person is in danger of freezing, an application of cold water or snow, rubbed hard on the part liable to be affected by frost, will produce a brisk circulation of blood, and a good degree of warmth. And in case of a frozen limb, these applications will take out the frost without injury, and produce a return of heat; when a sudden change by going into a warm room, or warming the part affected by fire, would be attended with pain for the present, and a long soreness; and in case the freezing be extensive, it would be attended with danger; as freezing the flesh and thawing it suddenly, destroys it as much as a burn. Therefore, it is highly important to guard against freezing in the manner we have named, when it cannot be done by exercise; and in case of freezing, great care is necessary, as the loss of comfort, limb, or life may be the consequence of going suddenly into a warm room.

It has been our lot to be out in some of the

coldest times ever known in the country, and we have been frozen and thawed a number of times; and as when the freezing has occurred in the most intense cold, and the thawing was effected by cold water or snow, there was but very little pain in these processes; hence the great danger. Sometimes a person freezes, as it were, imperceptibly, and becomes much frozen before he is aware of it: when, if he had known of his danger, he might have prevented it by exercise. There are doubtless cases of persons freezing to death, without ever being sensible of their danger, or ever becoming alarmed or aroused from the state of stupor produced by cold. We have heard of several cases in which persons, that have been overcome with fatigue and cold, have laid down insensible in the snow, and would have perished but for their companions, who aroused them to action and a sense of their danger.

We have felt ten times the pain in going out in damp, chilly weather, when it was hardly cold enough to congeal water, and then going directly to a fire, than we have in freezing and in extracting the frost with snow or cold water.

We were once travelling in a sleigh, in one of the coldest of days, upon an elevated plain where we had to face a keen blast, direct from the White Mountains. Not aware that it was the coldest for years, we were not very well protected about the face, and on descending into low land and a forest, there was no less exposure, when we felt rather cold about the throat, and on putting our hand to our face, we were alarmed to find all the lower part frozen. We immediately applied snow, and took out the frost without the least pain or injury. In this case the freezing was imperceptible.

At another time, we were riding one of the coldest nights ever felt this side of Greenland, and on ascending a long hill, we found that our feet were freezing fast, though attended with little pain. As the horse could walk but slowly up hill, we had no opportunity to warm our feet by a brisk exercise of running after the sleigh, which is often effectual; nor could we effect any thing by running, as there had been a light snow recently. So we took off boots and stockings, and found that Jack Frost had already bitten our toes, and was advancing upon our feet. A thorough rubbing with snow, and then with stockings made our feet as uncomfortable with heat as they before had been with cold. We give these examples, as they may be useful to some in similar situations; and they show practically the truth of our theory, which many who have not felt it, will not believe, that snow and cold water will prevent freezing, or extract frost without injury.—[Yankee Farmer.

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

LOBELIA.

Lobelia! Lobelia! sounds throughout the earth,
In private and public they speak of her worth :
Some style her a princess and make her their pride,
While others abuse and her virtue deride.

They term her a poison and wonder to see
That people enlightened should use her so free ;
The great ones do mostly defame and despise,
But still our Lobelia in honor doth rise.

She meets her opposers so firmly and bold,
They cannot withstand nor remove the deep hold
That now she has taken thro'out the great world,
And poison from practice we trust will be hurled.

The learned do tell us she's hurtful and bad,
With dangerous virtues Lobelia is clad,
'Tis strange that her poison should never be known
But unto her foes and accusers alone.

There's thousands who use her and praise her effect
In spite of her foes who so warmly reject ;
Her friends are most willing to let her be tried
By competent judges—so strong they confide.

But custom and pride when they once get the sway,
Too soon we may see how the world falls a prey;
To sweeping delusions the worshippers bend,
Regardless of sorrow or pain in the end.

But those who love Mercury and poison so much,
We'll leave them to tamper and not fear to touch;
Until sad experience has opened their eyes,
And sorrow and suffering has made them more wise.

DEFORMITIES OF GREAT MEN.

It is somewhat remarkable that some of the most ingenious writers, statesmen, heroes, and poets, have been defective in some physiological development. In speculating on the causes of their greatness, there may be much reason to suppose that those deformities have had some weight; and if they have not led to the selection of the pursuit by which the individual may have obtained his greatness and renown, might be the grand stimulus that has urged him forward. We give a short catalogue of eminent men, with the character of their frailties. It may be of some service to the curious observer.

Sir Walter Scott and Lord Byron were both lame. Pope was called the ugly little wasp of Twickenham. He was extremely weak and debilitated. So emaciated were his limbs that they were not able to support his body; and he was obliged to be moved about by the assistance of servants. His temperament too was quick and excitable. And regardless of sex, he would often become very troublesome and annoying in conversation, by the keenness of

his satire, which he freely indulged in when occasion served.

Lady Montague had a dirty face, and so had Dean Swift, who could never bring his to look clean, though he washed with oriental scrupulosity.

Appius Claudius, Timoleon, Tiresias, Democritus, Homer, and Milton—blind.

Ignatius Loyola and Epicetus, Coutusoff, Hanibal, and Euler—one eyed.

St. Paul, Alexander the Great, Julius Cæsar, Horace, Bonapart, Madison, Gen. Charles Lee, Chancellor Kent, and John Q. Adams—small men.

Melancthon, short and hard favored. Soame Jenyns, on hearing that Gibon had published his history, said he wondered how so ugly a man could write a book—which made the company smile, for he was himself remarkably ugly.

Cicero had a long neck, and Homer, according to Lucian, compares Helen's neck to a swan's, not because it was as white, but because it was as long.

The head of Pericle's was shaped like an onion; that of the present King of the French is compared to a pear.

Queen Elizabeth had red hair and black teeth; Cromwell a red face, and the aqueline look and fiery color of his nose was a standing jest of the cavaliers.

The celebrated Sir Charles Mathews, whose fame in Europe and America, as a ventriloquist and comedian, is so proverbially known and appreciated, had one leg shorter than the other, and limped in walking. It is said, in his life, that the character of Richard, in the play of Richard the Third, was one of his earliest attempts.

It is thought by some philosophers that the smaller the body, the more active the soul, as being the less diffused. While, on the other hand, it is commonly believed that the larger the body, the larger the soul. Both positions are vague and uncertain. One observation of the minds and actions of those that surround us, would show a great diversity of physiological proportions in men of all characters. Very often we find a perfect hyena in human shape, adorned by nature with all that is comely and graceful, and who could allure the most incredulous within his fatal grasp, whenever disposed to perpetrate a malicious act. While we also see men, of the best dispositions and possessed of a goodly portion of the milk of human kindness, garbed by nature in a dress that would lead the most adept physiognomist and observer of human nature to very opposite conclusions, and to attribute traits of character that in reality could not possibly exist under the influence of

the principles that have obtained the controlling power in the individual's mind, too firmly to lose their ascendancy. The better opinion is, that nature, in this particular, follows no uniform rule; and that there is no settled proportion between mind and body. Personal deformity is apt to modify the character in some way; it may create jealousy; or stimulate to counter-balance bodily inferiority by mental superiority; or may superinduce a gloomy disposition. In regard to ugliness, we may remember that we possess the means for raising a fabric that can possess the utmost symmetry, chasteness of proportion, beauty of parts, sublimity of light, and profundity of depth, which will command universal attraction, and draw a curtain over all the physical deformities of body, of which we may be possessed. That fabric is the MIND.

WHAT IS EDUCATION ?

BY DR. W. E. CHANNING.

The great end of education is not to train a man to get a living. This is plain, because life was given for a higher end than simply to toil for his own prolongation. A comfortable subsistence, is, indeed, very important to the purposes of life, be it what it may. A man half fed, half clothed, and fearing to perish from famine, or cold, will be too crushed in spirit to do the proper work of a man. He must be set free from the grasp of want, from the constant pressure of painful sensations, from grinding, ill-requited toil. Unless a man be trained to a comfortable support, his prospects of improvement and happiness are poor. But if his education aims at nothing more, his life will turn to little account.

To educate a man, is to unfold his faculties; to give him the free and full use of his powers, and especially of his best powers. It is first to train the intellect, to give him a love of truth, and to instruct him in the process by which it may be acquired. It is to train him in soundness of judgment, to weigh evidence, and to guard him against the common sources of error. It is to give him a thirst of knowledge, which will keep his faculties in action throughout life. It is to aid him in the study of the outward world, to initiate him into the physical sciences, so that he will understand the principles of his trade or profession, and will be able to comprehend the phenomena that are continually passing before his eyes. It is to make him acquainted with his own nature, to give him that most important means of improvement—self comprehension.

In the next place, to educate a man is to train his conscience, to give him a quick, keen dis-

cernment of the right, to teach him duty in its great principles and minute applications, to establish in him immovable principles of action. It is to show his true position in the world, his true relation to God and his fellow beings; and immutable obligations laid on him by these. It is to inspire him with the idea of perfection, to give him a high moral aim, and to show how this may be maintained in the commonest toils, and how every thing is made to contribute to its accomplishment.

Further; to educate a man in this country is, to make him a good citizen, to establish him in the principles of political science, to make him acquainted with our history, Government, and laws, to teach him our great interest as a nation, and the policy by which they are to be advanced, and to impress him deeply with the responsibility, his great trust, his obligations to disinterested patriotism as the citizen of a free State.

Again; to educate a man, is to cultivate his imagination and taste, to awaken his sensibility to the beauty of art, to give him the capacity of enjoying the writings of men of genius, to prepare him for the innocent and retired pleasures of literature.

I will now only add, that to educate a man is to cultivate his powers of expression, so that he can bring out his thoughts with clearness and strength, and exert a moral influence over his fellow creatures. This is essential to true enjoyment and improvement of social life.

According to these views, the laboring classes may as yet be said to have few means of education, except those which Providence furnishes in the relations, changes, occupations, and discipline of life. The great school of life, of Providence, is indeed open to all. But what, I would ask, is done by our public institutions for the education of the mass of the people? In the mechanical nature of our common schools, is it ever proposed to unfold the various faculties of a human being, to prepare him for self-government through life? Indeed, according to the views of education now given, how defective are our institutions for rich as well as poor, and what a revolution is required in our whole system of training the youth?

THE COVENANTERS.—Some brisk girls being interrogated by a sober man respecting their religious tenets; replied they were Covenanters. "Indeed" cried he; "I did not know we had any such among us."—"We mean the marriage covenant," replied they, we are all in favor of that."

"This must be looked into," as the blind-man said to the spy-glass.

AN AMERICAN GIANT.—Mons. Bihin, the gigantic Belgian, who exhibited himself in Boston the last autumn was viewed with admiration and astonishment, as one of the most magnificent specimens of humanity in these latter days. The eclat of his colossal proportions, and of his success in exhibiting himself, reached the remote section of St. Josephs, in the State of Michigan, where there resided, in rural quietude, Charles Freeman, a youth 19 years of age, whose stature had so outstripped the ordinary altitude of common men, that he began to think himself worth seeing—and with that impression firmly established in his mind, he came to the city of New York, and has finally arrived in Boston where he is on exhibition at Harrington's Museum.

Having called, as others do, to gratify the common promptings of curiosity, we noted down the following items in relation to Mr. F.'s history.

Charles Freeman, significantly called the American Giant, and with much propriety, too, was born in the city of New York, July 16th, 1821, and will therefore be 19 years and six months old on the 16th of the present month. In height, he measures seven feet and three inches, and weighs three hundred and twenty pounds! Around the chest the girth is fifty-four inches. When about three years of age, the family emigrated to Illinois, and ultimately settled at St. Josephs, in Michigan, where he has been brought up to a life of honest industry on a farm, and has grown to be a wonder to himself. He is the youngest of four children—all pretty tall, though not strikingly so. The father stands over six feet, and the mother not far from five feet six inches. The subject of these memoranda is a perfect youth in facial expression—having never been shaven till since leaving home. All the muscular apparatus belonging to his Herculean frame work of bones, is prodigiously developed. Of his tremendous strength there can be no question. At present he seems to be in the process of growing—having gained two inches the past year; but what he is destined to be when his growth is completed, is past our divining. It may be conjectured that when the whole body is finished and has assumed the just proportions which nature evidently intends to give it, he will stand in the midst of the people of the United States, as Gulliver did in the kingdom of Lilliput, the wonder of a nation.—[Boston Med. and Surg. Jour.]

"I wonder how they make lucifer matches," said a young married lady to her husband, with whom she was quarrelling. "The process is very simple—I once made one," replied he. "How did you manage?" "By leading *you* to church."

LEAD AND FEATHERS.—It is often asked, in jest, which is the heaviest, a pound of lead or a pound of feathers? A person who had not his wits about him might be guilty of the *hibernicism* of answering "a pound of lead, to be sure!" Another, a little more shrewd, would say they weighed just alike. Yet, under certain circumstances, they would both be wrong. Weigh a pound of feathers while they are in an uncompressed state, and then weigh them after being compressed, and in the latter case they would weigh more than in the former; because when any substance has a large quantity of surface exposed to the atmosphere, in proportion to its bulk, it weighs less than the same bulk when compressed: hence may be asserted with truth the seeming paradox that a pound of feathers is heavier than a pound of lead. This principle is well understood by the wool merchants, who compress their wool as much as convenient, that the same quantity may make more weight. It is said, moreover, that a wool merchant often gains the interest of his money, in the additional weight which his wool will acquire by remaining stored during a season, and thereby becoming compressed. Gold, the heaviest of all metals, by being made into gold leaf, which has infinitely larger surface in proportion to its bulk than the solid gold, may be made to float in the air. According to the same principle are the clouds suspended in the air.—[Boston Gaz.]

NEW DISCOVERIES.—"Grandmother," said a philosopher in frock and trowsers, "we must cause an incision at the apex, and create a corresponding aperture at the base, to apply it to the lips, and at the first inhalation the contents are extracted."

"Lord a-marcy," said the old lady, "how amazin. When I was a child, we only broke a hole in both ends and sucked it. Well, I declare, what privileges the children now-a-days have."

"Bristol, will your Balsam of Hoarhound cure a cold?"

"Certainly, sir; it is an infallible remedy."

"You will oblige me, then, by giving the weather a dose."

"Get out, you impertinent puppy."

As doctors seldom take their own prescriptions, and divines do not always practise what they preach, so lawyers are shy of meddling with the law on their own account, knowing it to be an edged tool of uncertain application, very expensive in the working, and more remarkable for its properties of close shaving, than for its always shaving the right person.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butter-nut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, MARCH 1, 1841.

AN HONEST MAN FOUND.

The *True* spirit of perfection and greatness has at last shown itself in that *humble* and *unpretending* sheet, issued from the depot of *honest* ambition. We find on perusal of that sheet, the "Boston True Thomsonian," that there is in Boston, one honest man—one whom the people of this city need not fear to trust. This man, would you believe it? has had the benevolence to quit his former occupation, and turn his attention to the manufacture of what he is pleased to call "pure Thomsonian Medicines." And what do you suppose tempted him to this noble work? Do not for a moment think it was pecuniary interest! No!! Do not think him of such a base and grovelling turn of mind. He having discovered that the founder of the Thomsonian system of medicine, had forsaken the path of honest dealing, and instead of doing that which would raise himself and his practice in the estimation of the public, as he had formerly done, by making "pure" medicines, he was doing the very reverse; he was bringing his system into disrepute by making bad, adulterated medicines. Yes reader, that venerable man, who has suffered the persecutions of the faculty, the scoffs of the ignorant, and the contumely of the bigoted, to bring his system to its present high standing with all parties, has according to that humble sheet, turned against his own interest, and that of his disciples, and taken a course calculated to undo, all he has so nobly done.

The old faculty, must of course, have seen the ruin which hung over their enemy, and rejoiced in secret at his speedy downfall. But alas, how are their hopes blasted by the bold, and *manly* daring, of this noble specimen of nature's works; for on discovering the change which had taken place, and to save the system in its purity, and prevent peo-

ple from being imposed upon any longer with medicine of Doct. Thomson's compounding, he opened a shop himself. What a laudable motive! what a benefactor to mankind!

To prevent any doubts as to the *honesty* of this man's intentions, we will just state—that had he been actuated by a money making propensity, he could, by purchasing articles of an inferior quality with little labor, make medicines of no value and sell them at a lower price than Dr Thomson can. Had he wished to deceive people into the idea that his was Doct. Thomson's shop, he could have come out under the Thomsonian name instead of his own? Think of these things,—and remember how much is due to the man who is so disinterested as to step forward, a champion for the cause of humanity. We hope Doct. Thomson will become convinced of the folly of adulterating his own medicines, and manufacture none but the pure.

The Medical and Surgical Journal says, "The medical community are absolutely nauseated with the unceasing nonsense of treating the whole catalogue of human diseases with steam, cayenne pepper, and Indian tobacco."—When, we would ask Dr Smith, did you ever hear a Thomsonian speak of giving Indian tobacco, to a patient? What is most nauseating to the Thomsonian is to hear his lordly antagonist misrepresent him; and what is most nauseating to the medical (poison) faculty is, that the Thomsonians can cure so many of the cases given over by the learned M. D.s 'Tis very nauseating, aint it Doctor? And again, to think they pretend to cure Small Pox! is certainly distressing!! We advise the Doctor to hold fast his parchment, for if he lose that he's a case.

☞ The Boston True Thomsonian sticks to it that lobelia throws up wholesome food from the stomach, notwithstanding our correspondent "I. H. A." in the last Manual, said enough to convince any one that such is not the case. We have the assurance of Doct. Thomson that "I. H. A." is correct; also, other gentlemen who have served long terms at the side of the sick-bed confirm the statement. And when we take into consideration, the fact, that the editor of the Thomsonian is not a practical Thomsonian, but "a gentleman of classical education, and has devoted most of his life to literary pursuits," there is certainly ground to doubt his knowledge of the operations of lobelia. Whether the stomach is entirely emptied of its contents or not, by lobelia, is immaterial, so long as it has an effect on the system that no other agent can produce.

SPECIFICS.

Perhaps there is no one way in which the American people are so egregiously deceived, both as regards their money and health, as by the innumerable *quack medicines* that are palmed upon them. A large number of individuals, yearly, make themselves independently rich by *Pressing* down the throats of the ignorant some *grand panacea* or *specific*, which is either wholly without effect on the diseased system, or prejudicial to it. Why is this, in a free and enlightened country like ours? There can be but the two following reasons:—

1st. The inefficient and deleterious practice of the Regular Medical Faculty.

2d. The ignorance of the mass of the people on medical subjects.

As regards the first of these causes, we would remark that if the faculty had followed Nature more, and *science* less, they would have been much more successful in the healing art; and consequently there would have been less incitement for unprincipled pretenders. There is no doubt in our mind but the medical gentlemen themselves are to be held accountable for the prevalence of quackery in this country. For instance, a family is predisposed to consumption. One of their number is attacked with cold; cough becomes confirmed; the doctor is sent for, and consumption follows. The patient lingers along a while and finally dies. A second and a third fall victims to the same disease, under the same mode of treatment. The remainder of the family discover, perhaps, by this time, that the doctor is of no service, and when another member is taken sick, instead of applying to a regular physician, they have recourse to some one of the many specifics which are daily trumpeted forth as “certain cures for colds, coughs, and consumptions.” They most likely reason thus: “We have witnessed the ill success of the *regular doctors*; we see that they do not cure; we are even confident that our relatives always failed more rapidly after the doctor was called; there is nothing but *Death* in the fashionable practice, we can but try something else.” And straightway the invalid commences using some of the nostrums of the day, and falls a victim to *ir-regular* instead of *regular quackery*!

Now, if our regular physicians were *reasonably* successful in their practice, people would not have recourse to quacks. Every individual would prefer employing a respectable and scientific physician, if he relieved instead of aggravating disease, to trusting their lives in the power of men or med-

icines that they knew nothing of save through the medium of a newspaper advertisement. But the truth is, our most eminent physicians fail, in too many instances, to relieve disease: aye, the more honest among them acknowledge that they prescribe medicines without being able to judge, *with any degree of certainty*, as to the result; and that they oftentimes irremediably injure the patient. Amid all this uncertainty is it to be wondered at that people lose confidence in the faculty?

As to the second cause of this base imposition, let us remark that if the people were in possession of that light on medical matters which they might readily acquire—and which, *duty* to themselves and their children demand of them, instead of the *fashionable frivolities* of the times—it would effectually dispel all quackery; for then every individual would be competent to judge of both physicians and prescriptions; but at present they can do neither. If a man can but show a *diploma*, it is considered a sufficient guarantee by a large proportion of the community to the bed-side of the sick; his *practical capability* is not at all regarded; he is a *doctor* by law, e'en though he *kill* by practice.

Again, if an individual merely writes an advertisement, and publishes it to the world, containing a few words that *nobody can understand*, and appends certificates from a few persons who *nobody knows*, recommending in the highest terms some newly discovered specific, the story is all *swallowed*, and the nostrum follows.

But, says some one, these quack medicines must perform cures in some instances, or they never could gain such notoriety as many of them do. We would reply to this by saying that some of these nostrums may indeed be *innocent* in their effects; and in such case it may often happen that a person imagines he is deriving great benefit from their use, when in reality nature is effecting the cure wholly independent of the nostrum. But we greatly fear that a majority of these specifics contain some latent poison; their authors taking pattern, probably, from the more respectable and *legalized quacks*.

Present customs of society sanction all this imposition. If a man steps forth to enlighten the public mind on this important subject, he is stigmatized as an innovator, a radical, a disturber of the forms of society. And if a *woman* dare venture before the public to give instruction in physiology, even to her own sect, anathemas from the study, the press, and even the pulpit, are thundered about her devoted head as if she were an *arch fiend*.

The following lines were written by a lady, who after having tried the mineral system for a long time, was at last told that she was past recovery, and all that could be done for her was to make her remaining days quiet (by opium, we suppose) as possible; that medicine could not cure her, but might afford temporary relief. This sort of comfort did not satisfy her, and she determined to give the *ignorant* system a trial. She applied to Dr. Thomson, who in a short time restored her to her friends, hale and hearty. And with feelings of gratitude she thus expresses herself.

“TO DOCTOR SAMUEL THOMSON.”

THOMSON, great master of the healing art,
 'Tis thine to turn aside death's pointed dart;
 'Tis thine to keep the victim from the tomb,
 And on the cheeks, cause rosy health to bloom.
 The nauseous weeds can unto thee impart
 Some power conducive to the healing art;
 While many a shrub, and plant, and flow'r, & tree,
 Thy knowledge makes subservient unto thee.

'Tis thine to smooth the rugged brow of care,
 And charm to hope the ravings of despair;
 'Tis thine to bid life's ebbing tide to flow,
 And light new smiles upon the cheek of woe.
 And can it be, that e'en the grave Divine!
 Has slander'd thee with falsehood most malign?
 Yes it is true, while envy, spite, and pride,
 To injure thee their baneful powers have tried.

But thou shalt triumph, rise superior still,
 While futrue ages shall proclaim thy skill.
 To thee, dear friend, more gratitude I owe,
 Than feeble language hath the power to show;
 But yet accept this tribute from the heart,
 More than my pen or words can e'er impart:
 In vain I strive in these unpolished lays,
 To speak thy worth, thy matchless skill to praise.

For thou, a guardian angel, came to save
 A struggling victim from the silent grave!
 'The power of medicine I sought in vain,
 Till thou by skill did mitigate my pain.
 Still to thy labors may success be given,
 With peace on earth and endless joy in heaven.
 May faith and hope with gath'ring years increase,
 And life's last sun glide gently down in peace.

CINNAMON.—This is the inner bark of a small laurel tree, growing in the East Indies; the bark on the tree is first freed of its external coat; the inner bark is then stripped from the trees and dried in sand, where it becomes of a reddish yellow color, and curls up into quills or canes.

OBITUARY.

Died, at New Hampton, N. H., on the 5th ult., Rev. JOSIAH MAGOON, aged about 83 years.

As a brief sketch of Mr. M.'s life, and the manner in which he closed his ripened years, may be interesting to our readers, and useful to the rising generation, we have thought proper to annex it to this notice.

Mr. Magoon was born in the State of New Hampshire. At the age of 17 years he entered the service of his country, and took an active part in the memorable battle of Bunker Hill. During the winter of '76, he barracked at Winter Hill, and was afterwards at the “retreat” of Ticonderoga. After remaining in the service for about two years, he returned home; his constitution much impaired by the fatigue of the campaign, and the sickness which had prevailed among the soldiers. He collected his pay of the United States, and was more fortunate with his money than many of his brother soldiers; for with it he purchased a cow, worth six dollars.

About the age of 21 years, Mr. M. married and settled in the State of Maine, where he lived a number of years in indigent circumstances. His land being hard, the country new, and his family consisting of a wife and four children, demanding all his exertions, he determined to change his residence, and accordingly removed to N. H.; where by hard labor, industry, and economy, he accumulated a good farming interest, and brought up a large family, consisting in all of eight children.

As Mr. M. began to decline in life, he was seriously afflicted with asthma; but declined taking medicine of the doctors, owing, as he said—and no doubt truly—to having lost his wife, eight years since, at the age of 70, by their administering to her calomel, which she had never taken until her last illness, as previous to that time he had kept his family well without their aid; 33 cents being all he had paid for medicines when his fifth child was born. Previous to which time three of his children being sick with canker rash and throat distemper, (now called scarlet fever by the faculty,) he went a number of miles for an emetic, and when he returned, the children being convalescent, the emetic was thrown away, and the children got well.

In 1835, Mr. M. was supposed by himself and his friends to be near his end; he would, however, have no physician, as he said he wished to die a natural death: but by the solicitation of his son, Dr. N. S. Magoon of this city, he tried the Thom-

sonian medicines, which relieved him ; and about a year ago he expressed his opinion that Thomsonian medicines had preserved his life for the last five years.

As it is usual with aged people to be more diseased, and die, in damp open winters than at other seasons, (see Dr. Thomson's New Guide to Health,) Mr. M. was taken more ill about the first of January last, and continued to fail until the 5th ult., when he expired without a groan or a struggle, giving no indication of any material change. Two weeks previous to his death he shaved himself with a steady hand.

Mr. M. made a public profession of religion on the notable "dark day," which occurred some number of years ago, and was one of the first who embraced the tenets of the Free-will Baptists, of which he was an ordained elder, and preached the doctrine publicly for nearly 40 years ; and, as all reformers do, he suffered much from persecution.
N. S. M.

CALOMEL.

There is a little girl of our acquaintance whose under lip and lower jaw are so eaten off in front by calomel, though "given as a medicine," and "with a view" to cure the intermittent fever, that she cannot shut her mouth to prevent the saliva from constantly passing over the chin ! If she goes to the door for a few minutes in a damp day, she is immediately salivated.

Let those who advocate the use of calomel, just read the above fact, which we take from the Columbus (O.) Med. Rec., and then seriously ask themselves if they would dare to take the *condemned stuff* themselves, or suffer it to be administered to their children. There is now at the Infirmary, No. 40 Salem st., a young lady who has been tormented and tortured with opium, bleeding, cupping, blistering, and calomel, for the last four years, under scientific treatment ! She has been almost murdered by these gentry of the old school : but at last was told that they could not cure her. Her hair was falling off—her teeth decayed—her strength exhausted—and her tormentors told her she had scarcely any lungs left ; (we suppose they thought they had given her enough poison to destroy them ;) but the Thomsonian medicines are doing wonders for her recovery. In the short space of two weeks, she has improved so fast that she looks like another person.

FLOWER OF SLIPPERY ELM.—We live but to learn and obtain knowledge. Being in the country a few days since on a visit to a sick friend, I was shown an article entirely new to me, which is

said to be remarkably nutritious and palatable for debilitated and sick persons. It was flour, prepared by the Shakers, from Slippery Elm, and used the same as arrow-root. One table-spoonful of this flour, boiled in a pint of new milk, is excellent to feed infants weaned from the breast ; they will not only fatten upon it, but it will prevent bowel complaints. It makes an easy and nutritious diet for consumptive and dyspeptic persons. From the character I received of it, I presume that it only need be known to become of general use.—[U. S. Gazette.

Dr. Thomson published to the world a "long time ago," the virtues of the Slippery Elm ! 'Tis strange how some people do find out new things, and make discoveries !

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A THOMSONIAN.—No. V.

During my stay in Auburn in the summer of '37, my sister fell and injured herself seriously. The back door of the house opened about six or seven feet above the level of the yard, and wooden steps led up to it. My sister stepped out of the door on to this platform, when it suddenly gave way, pitching her headlong through the framework to the ground. She turned a complete somerser, striking upon her head and shoulders on the ground ; and, as fate would have it, there was a stick of about two inches in diameter driven into the earth under the steps, and remaining an inch or inch and a half above the surface, upon which her whole weight was brought, striking directly between the shoulders. I was standing in the yard within a few feet of the steps at the time, and saw her as she fell, but was unable to prevent the accident. When I got to her she was speechless but not senseless. My first impulse was to attempt to raise her up, but she motioned with her hand for me to desist. I then ran into the house and got some cold water which I sprinkled in her face ; she then groaned, which was the first sound that had escaped her lips after she reached the ground. By this time, some one of the family had brought out half a cupful of No. 6., and by raising her up a little she was enabled to drink it. In a few moments she spoke, saying we might try to get her into the house, which we did after much difficulty, as it gave her great pain to be moved. Upon examination her back was found to be very much bruised, especially between the shoulders—one side of her head and face was much scratched and bruised—her mouth and lips badly cut, and

two of her front teeth loosened and bent inward. She complained of nothing, however, except the pain between her shoulders, and from thence through into the stomach. We immediately put a number of stones to heat, commenced giving warm 'medicine, and as soon as the stones were hot, wrapped' them in wet cloths and placed them around the patient in bed; and after getting up a lively perspiration, gave her a lobelia emetic: it operated well, and by the time the patient had been under its influence half an hour, she could get up in bed without difficulty; although when we placed her there, an hour or two previous, she could not turn herself, or even be turned without experiencing severe pain.

Before night she got up and dressed herself—it was about 12 o'clock when the accident happened—felt no great pain or soreness; but when she attempted to walk, she experienced considerable difficulty in one knee, which before had not been complained of. It appeared very much swollen, and upon examination was found to be out of joint. We immediately wrapped the part in cloths wet with hot water, and proceeding agreeably to the directions laid down in Dr. Thomson's "New Guide to Health," the bone was put into place without the least difficulty or pain.

The next day she was able to go about house, but by keeping upon her feet too much, the knee became again dislocated. I re-set it again by the same process—wrapped a number of thicknesses of cloth wet with cold water around the part, and placed some thin pieces of wood lengthwise the leg and bandaged them on, by which means the knee was supported and the bone kept in its proper place. She was a little lame for a week or two, but finally recovered thoroughly from the injury, although one shoulder is considerably larger than the other to this day.

For the Manual.

A CASE OF RHEUMATISM.

MR. EDITOR:—As you are soliciting your friends to report such cases as may come under their observation, I have concluded to send you a case of rheumatism which I cured a few weeks since.

The patient (a colored man) was very badly swollen in the feet and legs, so much so as to disable him from walking; the muscles very much contracted, which caused considerable pain: he was obliged to sit up, in consequence of his legs being drawn up, and says he did not sleep six hours in three weeks.

The patient remained in this situation for nearly a month, without any thing being done for him, as

it was thought by every appearance that his case was incurable. He was then thought to be a fit subject for me to operate upon; and to the surprise of all, I cured him in a week; and in two weeks more he went to his labor as well as he ever was.

The medicine had scarcely done operating the first time, before the swelling abated, the pains ceased, and he had a good night's rest; something he had not enjoyed for several weeks.

His cure was effected by strictly adhering to the "New Guide:" giving the regular courses of medicine without any variations from or additions to the instructions laid down.

This case (with one or two others which I shall report shortly) has gained me some reputation as a doctor, but prejudice and ignorance (two formidable foes) are still arrayed against me. Though I live in one of the most intelligent communities in the state, I know the people will look into this subject and judge for themselves, without any advice from the learned M. D's. All I desire now is to see my fellow men turn from darkness unto light; they have been imposed upon too long by the calomelites—the mysterious administration of poisonous minerals. They are already beginning to say, "opposition is the life of business," and to prove it, they give me a patient occasionally.

I think the day is not far distant when our cause will universally prevail. I pray to God that it may: then will I be satisfied, and not before.

You will hear from me again soon.

Faithfully yours,

J. M. GARTRILL.

Eubanks, (Geo.) Oct., 9, 1840.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON:—Dear Sir—I have been, and am still, laboring for the cause of reform in medicine of which you are the original proprietor. I am sorry to hear of such a desperate division and opposition in the Thomsonian ranks, and especially at head-quarters, as are manifesting themselves of late to the world. We trust, however, that the abilities of the proprietary, and justness, will prevail against all designing and undermining combinations.

For the purpose of supporting the cause of reform, I enclose you \$10 for eight copies of the Manual.

We are desirous that the work of reform may be going on; to this end we have raised eight subscribers, and in fact, a few of us have lately bought Family Rights and the present edition of the New Guide and Narrative, although we had

reason to expect the publication of the "New Book;" with the confidence in the proprietor, that when he has published the new work, he will also publish the new discoveries and additions by themselves, that former Right-holders may have an opportunity of becoming equal with new purchasers, in the discoveries and publications of Thomsonism.

To this effect we expect to see a paragraph in the columns of the Manual, to satisfy us, whether or not.

I here close, by bidding you "God speed" in your undertakings.

Respectfully yours, in sincerity,

DAVID ALBERT.

Shepherdstown, (Pa.,) Dec. 19, 1840.

☞ Due notice will be given in the Manual of the appearance of the New Book, which is now being printed at Albany, N. Y. The price will also be announced, both for new purchasers and those who now hold Rights; which will be such as to give satisfaction, and prevent any competition among agents.—[Ed. Man.]

LIFE IS AN ART.—Whenever we consider what life may be to all, and what it is to most, we shall see how little this art is yet understood. What life may be to all, is shown us in the lives of the honored few, whom we have learned to distinguish from the rest of mankind, and to worship as the heroes and saints of the world. What life is to most, is seen wherever we turn our eyes. To all, life may be freedom, progress, success. To most men, it is bondage, failure, defeat. Some have declared all life to be a tragedy. The life of most men is rightly so termed. What can be more tragical than after long years of weary watching and ceaseless toil, in which all the joy and strength of our days have been spent in the pursuit of some distant good, to find at last that the good thus sought was a shadow, a sham—that the sum total of our endeavor, with no positive increase, has left us minus our youth, our faculties, our hope, and that the three-score years has been a live-long illusion? This is the great ground tragedy in which all other tragedies and sorrows and defeats of a man's life are comprised. Such is the actual condition of mankind. Look at our educated men. Of the hundreds whom every year sends forth to wander in the various paths of active life, how many are there who find or even seek the bread that alone can satisfy the hungering, dreaming heart of man? How many sell their strength and waste their days and "file their minds" for some paltry clerkship, or senatorship, or some phantom which they term a competence, or, at the best, some dream of fame—and find, when the race is done and the heat is won, that they are no nearer than before the true end of their being, and that the great work of life is still to do?

☞ Follow REASON, rather than your *Ancestors*.

CAUTION!—CAUTION!!

MR. EDITOR.—My ears are daily filled with complaints against individuals who falsely hold themselves out to the public as my agents, authorized to practice my System of Medicine, and who thereby impose, upon the honest and unsuspecting portion of the community, gross ignorance for medical skill, and worthless or deleterious preparations for genuine Thomsonian Medicines. The villany which thus robs the unfortunate of their money, without any valuable consideration, should meet the punishment that often overtakes another and less criminal class of offenders who obtain money by false pretences; and the daring wickedness which thus trifles, from mercenary considerations, with human life, deserves to be treated with the greatest severity known to our laws. To protect the public from the gross imposition, of which so many are made the victims, the Thomsonian Manual will contain a standing list of my agents,—all others who use my name, or profess to have my medicines, are impostors, and I warn my fellow-citizens to beware of them.

I deem it my duty to put the public on their guard, in a particular manner, against the following persons, who are using my name, directly or indirectly, but who either never had any authority from me, or have been dismissed from my confidence for unfaithfulness. Neither myself, nor my system of practice, is to be held responsible for their conduct.

Caleb Sandborn, Berwick, Me.
 John B. Healey, Augusta, Me.
 Benjamin Plummer, Bangor, Me.
 Robert Mowe, Eastport, Me.
 Horatio N. Palmer, Belfast, Me.
 Bayley Pierce, " "
 E. G. Gould, " "
 S. Sewall, Scarboro', Me.
 Lewis Watson, Bangor, "
 Mr. Jacobs, " "
 Mr. Burke, Calais, "
 Joshua Taylor, Norridgewock, Me.
 Colby & Smith, Gardiner, Me.
 Hilton, Frost & Mason, Portland, Me.,
 Mr. Jones, St. Stephens, Me.
 Mr. Wilcox, Bennington, Vt.
 A. H. Platt, Rahway, N. J.
 Hosea Winchester; Wm. Johnson; Eliakim Darling; Hale & Osgood; and Elias Smith, all of Boston, Mass.
 William Clark, Lowell, Mass.
 Ralph Rugg, West Amesbury, Mass.
 Martin Bryant, North Adams, Mass.
 Samuel Sprague, Lowell, Mass.
 — Ames, Ipswich, Mass.
 John Cheever, Charlestown, Mass.
 Nathan Wright & Son, Cambridgeport, Mass.
 Samuel Emmons, Waltham, Mass.
 Thomas Lapham, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
 Mr. Frisby, Mr. Sweet, and P. Lapham, New York.
 J. J. Gates, Rochester, N. Y.
 J. A. Brown, Providence, R. I.
 — Farewell, Woonsocket, R. I.
 John Sandborn, Somersworth, Great Falls, N. H.
 Michael L. Priest, Durham, N. H.
 Philbrook & Marshall, Nashua, N. H.
 H. Jameson, " "
 O. N. Chase, " "
 P. D. Badger, Newport, N. H.

Aaron Mudge, Portsmouth, N. H.
 Mr. Kenedy, " "
 John White, " "
 Mr. Leighton, " "
 B. W. Sperry, New Haven, Conn.
 I. J. Sperry, Hartford, Conn.
 Rev. Dr. Robinson, Lebanon, Conn.
 A. E. Sperry, New London, "
 Geo. W. Rubey, Norwalk, "
 A. S. Pelton, Clinton, "
 G. G. Field, North Madison, "
 Wm. Allen, Jun. New Britain, "
 George Pease, Guilford, "
 Aaron Fenu, Roxbury, "
 G. W. Riley, Goshen, "
 E. Larrabee, Baltimore, Md.

The following individuals, now holding agencies from me, have shown themselves unworthy of my confidence; I therefore revoke their agencies, and hold myself no longer responsible for any of their acts.

MASSACHUSETTS.—James Osgood, who keeps with Daniel Lee Hale, at Blackstone and Endicott Streets, *Boston*. John A. Andrews, *Worcester*. John Locke, *Boston*. Alexander Scamel, *Milford*. Asa McCollum, *Leicester*. George Howe, *Marlboro'*. John Edson, *Bridgewater*. Phebe H. Hale, *Rowley*. Sumner Jacobs, *Springfield*, (Chickopee Falls.) Calvin Sanderson, *Springfield*. Jonas W. Chapman, *Boston*.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—George E. Morrill, *South Ware*. S. W. King, *New Ipswich*.

MAINE.—Nicholas Smith, *Hallowell*. O. Wright, *Livermore*. S. W. Elliot, *Industry*. Jonathan Marden, *Paris*. John Shaw, *Exeter*.

PENNSYLVANIA.—Frederick Plummer, J. W. Comfort, Aaron Comfort, *Philadelphia*.

VERMONT.—Joseph Wright, *Montpelier*.

NEW YORK.—Oliver O. Cook, *White Creek*.

Some of the above named individuals make use of vegetable poisons, and I consider it my duty to put the public upon their guard, respecting them. Those who assume my name to deceive and impose upon the people, are not entitled, either in law or justice, to any recompense for their services. I would remark, also, that the above named Winchester has been travelling in the West, and Johnson, his partner, in the East, for the purpose of vending their spurious medicines. A word to the wise, &c.

I also understand that the above-named Hale has been round the country selling medicine; but he has no authority for so doing from me. I have no travelling agents.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

Boston, June 15, 1840.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles* and *Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, wo-

man's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, payable in advance. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, free of postage, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

Acton, Robert Chaffee
 Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
 Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
 Ashby, F A Kendall
 Andover, John Harding
 Andover, (Ballard Vale) Aaron P. Holt.
 Ashby, Thomas Gibson
 Colerain, Oscar J Martin
 " Calvin W. Shattuck
 Chesterfield, Amos Bisby
 " Varnum Nichols
 Danvers, Amos Trask, and J R Pattin
 " Joseph Shaw Jr
 " South Parish, James Worcester
 Essex, Eli F Burnham
 " E. B. Putnam.
 Eastham, Scotter Cobb
 Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
 " M. O. Bradford
 Gloucester, Samuel Friend
 " Gideon Lane
 " David E. Saunders
 Harvard, J. Hosmer
 " P. F. Osgood
 Leveret, Myron Ashley
 Lowell, Daniel Hutchinson
 " Perkins H. Dow
 Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney
 Milford, S Sumner
 Middleborough, Rev A Briggs
 North Bridgewater, Nahum J Smith
 North Reading, Eben'r Eaton
 " Thomas Abbot
 North Andover, L. T. Presson
 New Bedford, Prince Weeks
 " G. Nye
 Newburyport, G W Goodwin
 " J Blood
 Orleans, Vickery Sparrow
 Plymouth, Samuel Barnes
 Reading, N K J Vinal
 South Andover, Jacob Jenkins
 Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
 Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
 Salem, R W Merrill
 Springfield, Sirguy Noble
 Sturbridge, D Mason
 Stoughton, Luther Belcher
 Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh
 Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
 Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
 Walpole, Williard Lewis
 Waltham, J Shepley
 Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
 Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
 Camden, Thomas Annis
 " William Merriam
 East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon
 Eastport, John Shackford
 Frankfort, George Kimball
 Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
 Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher
 Machias, Wm. Smith

Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster

" M. M. Miles

Norway, Jotham Goodnow

Portland, Daniel Sawyer

" Rev. C. D. Ffrench

Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield

Ripley, Samuel A. Todd

Searsmont, Randlet Ness

Thomaston, Horatio Alden

Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, A. Watkins, and Bethuel Keith
 Exeter, S. J. Perkins
 Kingston, John Dearborn,
 Langdon, Royal Shumway
 Meredith, William M. Ladd
 Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
 New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
 New Hampton, James Jackson
 Nashua, Jesse Whitney
 Pembroke, Moses Martin
 Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
 Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
 Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Brookfield, Aaron Cleveland
 Bennington, George Boardman Jr
 Chelsea, Benj. Grant
 Charlemont, David Todd
 Dummerston, Alemon Butterfield
 Dover, Daniel Leonard
 East Randolph, P. Smith
 Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
 Halifax, S. Plumb
 " Eben'r M. Clark
 " Alvah Brooks
 " John Reid, Esq.

Green River, Sam'l Cutting

Guilford, Henry Packer

" Philip Martin

Londonderry, J. Arnold

Randolph, Jehiel Smith

Woodstock, Nathan Cushing

" Jacob Holt

Whitingham, W. Goodnow

" Reuben Green

" Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson

New Haven, George Munson

Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson

New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Eleventh St., near 5th Avenue

Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding

Troy, Ira Wood

Westport, J. K. French

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman

Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount, A. Willford

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, MARCH 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 9.

HAPPINESS.

Like the shadow that floats
O'er the green meadow's breast—
O'er the dreamy delusion
That comes in our rest—
As shapeless and vague as
The maniac's thought,
Is the tissue of joyance
Vain fancy has wrought.

'Tis madness to hope for
Contentment in life !
Have you found the blessing
In hope's promise rife?
No! the tear stealing softly
Along the pale cheek,
'Tells more than the lip of
The mourner can speak.

One virtue is left us,
Yet even our woe;
And it robs pain's deep anguish
Of many a throe ;
'Tis the oil on life's billows,
Despair's only 'cure,
And e'er broken, the heart learns
That, 'tis to endure.

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

WHAT IS MEDICINE ?

Walker tells us “medicine is any remedy administered by a physician.” This definition, no one, we presume, on reflection, could but admit to be erroneous. The idea of any thing and every thing prescribed by a physician being a remedial agent, would be too absurd for serious argument, were it not strictly true that such a belief is not only prevalent with a great mass of mankind, but the idea is forced upon them by laws and penalties. The people are obliged in those states where laws prevail for the protection of regular college practice, to the exclusion of reason and common sense, to do without medical attendance unless they submit their lives to the care of those who employ the most efficient means known for the destruction of health and even life itself. The plea for enacting medical laws, is predicated on the idea that it acts as a check on imposition in medicine, and thereby preserves the health and protects the lives of the people. But the result has been satisfactorily shown to have proven otherwise where the subject has undergone the strictest examination.

VOL. VII,—NO. IX.

The remarks of Mr. Smart, of Maine, in the Senate of that state, on the bill to repeal the first section of an act regulating physic and surgery, is so applicable to our subject that we cannot but give them entire.

Mr. Smart commenced thus :

“Inasmuch as he had been one of the joint select committee that had under consideration the petition of about 2000 persons, praying a repeal of the law regulating the practice of physic and surgery, he felt it his duty to submit a few remarks for the consideration of the Senate.

“The law which the petitioners pray may be repealed, was never, he believed, demanded by the people. The opinion is very prevalent that it does not in the least, prevent quackery, but it stigmatises some of our most meritorious and worthy citizens—it shields and protects one class of men, however incapacitated many of them may be to perform medical duties—while another class, many of whom it is proved are the best practitioners, are debarred from reaping the benefits of their honest industry. This the majority of the committee believed to be wrong, they believed the community would be safer without the law, and it was just and proper that men and systems should stand or fall by their own merits.

“Mr. S. said he had heard quackery denounced by gentlemen at the board, and could truly say, that his heart responded at the words; nothing was more odious than quackery. He had heard of ‘Thomsonian quacks.’ He doubted not that many individuals calling themselves Thomsonian doctors, were impostors and quacks. He once believed that all who pretended to skill as such were so—his physicians told him so—the statutes told him so—and by some strange hallucination he believed that the law was just and equal! He believed that the constitution enjoined upon us to reward merit—to pass no ex post facto laws nor those that had a tendency to impair the obligation of contract; and that as all men were created equal, one should not have privileges granted above another—or in other words, one man should not be refused compensation for services, while another, for similar services, is well paid. Hence he looked upon all Thomsonian practitioners as quacks—they must be so, or there was fault in the law. But he was at length made to believe it possible that men were doing wrong to suffer themselves to

be blinded by prejudice, and he determined to make a free and unprejudiced inquiry, to watch all cases that came within his inspection, and ascertain if possible, whether the Thomsonian practitioners were entitled to support. The result convinced him that their labors were attended with better success than the legalized physicians; and public opinion would bear him out in saying, that although a few quacks have imposed on the community, yet there were very many skilful Thomsonian physicians, who have done much to alleviate the sufferings of their fellow men. He had said that the whole story had not been told about quackery—it was disgusting, it would not suit the arguments of gentlemen to do so. He then might be permitted to say, that it was within the knowledge of all, that many persons go through the ‘regular course’ of study, as it is called, get a diploma, and set up for themselves, who are the veriest quacks in the world—legalized quacks—worse than rum-sellers, for the law but suffers the latter, while it sanctions the former.

“The people will no longer bear dictation in these matters—the public voice is now proclaiming in language not to be misunderstood, that it will be the judge of its wants,—it will rule that laws shall give equal protection to all—that the road to distinctions shall be open to all—that there shall be no competition between two classes of physicians, but that each individual shall stand or fall on his own merits. If a man employs another as a physician, the presumption is that he has confidence in his ability; life is sweet, and is the first object he would protect. What reason is there, then, that the man whom he selects shall not receive protection from the laws that he may be compensated for his services? Sir, no honorable man would avail himself of a chance of depriving a creditor of his pay, and shall the Legislature of the State of Maine afford facilities to knaves, that a man of common honesty will scorn to use?

Extraordinary efforts have been made throughout the Union to put down the Thomsonian practitioners by arbitrary laws and libellous denunciations. But those who pursue this course mistake very much; they forget that the people, who rarely deal unjustly, judge impartially in the case; and their decision is in favor of a repeal; this is evinced by their petitions. In many states they have obtained a repeal of similar laws, and in some states the practice of physicians who dispense with the use of mineral poisons is more extensive than the other; and so far from being quacks, they are allowed to have made great improvements in the science of medicine. These practitioners have done much to strip the former practice of its mystification and jugglery, and although the skilful

and meritorious of the legalized class may not be injured by their competitors, yet the “quacks” in the ranks of the “regulars” are brought down.

“Why not then abolish a law which has failed to answer the ends for which it was created; a law for the repeal of which 2000 petitioners have prayed, many of whom are the first citizens in the state; a law arbitrary and unjust; a law which stigmatizes some of our most valuable citizens—that prescribes a particular path that all must travel in, thus making a machine of the mind and circumscribing genius; a law which would well compare with the Chinese customs, compelling generations after generations to perpetuate their practices and follies!”

[The law has been repealed.]

The above remarks of Mr. Smart are applicable to every state that has framed laws to regulate the practice of physic and surgery. Seven states in the union have repealed the odious and unjust features of the medical laws, so as to enable merit, and not power obtained by erroneous pretences, to obtain its just dues, thereby opening the door of improvement, which under legislative restrictions remained locked, and the science of medicine confined to a few interested and unprincipled demagogues, whose principal aim is self aggrandisement.

Under restrictive and exclusive laws, the definition of Walker in regard to medicine is perfectly consistent. It would be erroneous, yea, absurd, to question the acts of the faculty in those states that give them exclusive privileges by virtue of a diploma. If they have no remedy but poison, or bleeding, cupping, leeching, blistering, cauterizing, purging, starving, head-shaving, &c., why, it is agreeably to law to practice on the above plan and to call them medicines, and should nine out of every ten to whom they are administered die, or their constitutions become ruined from their effects, the law legalizes the consequences and justifies the practitioner. To be plain in this matter, a legalized physician may administer what he pleases and when he pleases, may give poisons that are universally acknowledged to be productive of death; and yet should the least suspicion be entertained that a cook or a baker exhibited the like agents in their profession, the law would be enforced in all its rigor. Now is it reasonable to suppose that a well man can be killed by accidentally taking poison, and that the same means is a rational remedy to restore a sick man to health? An article to operate as medicine, should harmonize with the principles of the animal economy; to accomplish this point, the agent must be free from any deleterious property, in order that no tissue or living fibre may sustain the least injury from its administration.

From the Same.

REMARKS.

Dr. Thomson recommends no article as a medicine that exhibits the least tendency of producing debility or causing a derangement of the functions, or lowering the action of the system, upon which so much rests for the success of restoring health. A poison, he says, cannot operate as a medicine, and therefore he abandons both mineral and vegetable. Purgatives he abandons entirely. His reason is sound on this subject, and experience testifies that purging is not only injurious to the system, but it is the foundation of serious complaints, which baffle the power of medical agents and the skill of even the learned. What is better calculated to render the vital energies of the system inactive and debilitated? Or impair the digestive apparatus and injure the tone of the bowels? Purgatives cannot be sustained by reason or common sense as a medicine. We would ask no greater favor than that some one among the innumerable host of the physic gentry would favor us with their views on the importance and utility of the use of physic, of any kind, as a medicine. We have been censured for having brought this subject before the Thomsonian fraternity. We have been styled "Simon Pure," and many other dignified titles, but we care not for all that may have been said, so far as regards ourselves, as to our views on this subject. We are certain of one thing, and that is, every one who has canvassed the subject, must be aware that we have manifested a disposition quite different from those who have called themselves "liberal" "independent," etc., etc. Who exhibits the most liberality and independence, an editor who bows to a popular error, or one who dares to stand alone and oppose it? Hundreds have given up our paper on account of our freedom of expression in regard to cathartics being employed in the Thomsonian practice, but this shall not lessen our efforts to sustain truth and endeavor to enlighten mankind on a subject so important as that of cathartics, as far as they are considered agents for curing disease, or in any manner a part of the Thomsonian practice, or an agent belonging to that system. If we were asked "are cathartics good in no case?" we should certainly reply—"Yes." "But in what case would you employ them?" In all cases where the doctor wants to effect "a bill," by prolonging his visits! This is so important that it would be a very grievous disaster should the doctors be obliged to do away with physic. Why, it would ruin their trade, and not only that, the nostrum venders would also be ruined! The effect of pills, and other quackery, as panaceas for dis-

ease, are assistants to scientific quackery, or what is called "regular" treatment. The one is dependent on the other, and both are destitute of science or common sense, so far as their utility or worth is concerned as remedies in disease.

We cannot conceive what benefit can be derived from the Thomsonian system, while we permit the errors of a bloated profession to steal upon the fundamental principles upon which the system is based. If the employment of the Thomsonian remedies, by enema, are not as well adapted as *physic*, and by far superior, and in all cases preferable, why not, as before stated, among so numerable a body, and as we have lately heard, so learned! and so respectable! show cause for the employment of *physic*. We have never yet discovered a solitary individual who could not give good reason for preferring the Thomsonian treatment to that of the anti-phlogistic. Now, why is it that those who pretend to be so well informed, cannot show us the necessity or propriety of the use of *physic*. We are serious in the matter. Besides, we consider the subject of too much importance to let it rest. Numerous individuals have been deceived in this city in regard to the use of *physic* as a Thomsonian remedy. Many of whom have looked with disgust on those who employ it under the title of Thomsonian or Botanic; the latter title being so blended with the former, that it is often the means of numbers being deceived who imagine that they are receiving Thomsonian treatment, and who are in many instances hard to be convinced to the contrary. By mixing the practice, discredit has not only resulted to the disadvantage of the system, but shame and disgrace has fallen upon those who were reckless enough to practice deception. Ignominy and disgrace must sooner or later mark the career of every individual who frauds or deceives his fellow creatures.

IMPORTANCE OF PURE AIR.

Unwholesome air is a very common cause of diseases. Few are aware of the danger arising from it. People generally pay some attention to what they eat or drink, but seldom regard what goes into the lungs, though the latter proves often more suddenly fatal than the former.

Air, as well as water, takes up parts of most bodies with which it comes in contact, and is often so replenished with those of a noxious quality, as to occasion immediate death. But such violent effects seldom happen, as people are generally on their guard against them. The less perceptible influences of bad air prove more generally hurtful to mankind; we shall there-

fore endeavor to point out some of these, and to show whence the danger chiefly arises.

Air may become noxious many ways. Whatever greatly alters its degree of heat, cold, moisture, &c., renders it unwholesome: for example, that which is too hot dissipates the watery parts of the blood, exalts the bile, and renders the whole humors thick. Hence proceed bilious and inflammatory fevers, cholera morbus, &c. Very cold air obstructs the perspiration, constricts the solids, and condenses the fluids. It occasions rheumatisms, coughs, and catarrhs, with other diseases of the throat and breast. Air that is too moist destroys the elasticity or spring of the solids, induces phlegmatic or lax constitutions, and disposes the body to agues, or intermitting fevers, dropsies, &c.

Wherever great numbers of people are crowded into one place, if the air has not a free circulation, it soon becomes unwholesome. Hence it is that delicate persons are so apt to turn sick or faint in crowded churches, assemblies, or any place where the air is injured by breathing, fires, candles, or the like.

In great cities so many things tend to contaminate the air, that it is no wonder it proves so fatal to the inhabitants. The air in cities is not only breathed repeatedly over, but is likewise loaded with sulphur, smoke, and other exhalations, besides the vapors continually arising from innumerable putrid substances. All possible care should be taken to keep the streets of large towns and cities open and wide, that the air may have a free current through them. They ought likewise to be kept very clean. Nothing tends more to pollute and contaminate the air of a city than dirty streets.

Wherever air stagnates long, it becomes unwholesome. Hence the unhappy persons confined in jails, not only contract malignant fevers themselves, but often communicate them to others. Nor are many of the holes, for we cannot call them houses, possessed by the poor in great towns, much better than jails. These low dirty habitations are the very lurking places of bad air and contagious diseases. Such as live in them seldom enjoy good health; and their children commonly die young. In the choice of a house, those who have it in their power ought always to pay the greatest attention to open free air.

The various methods which luxury has invented to make houses close and warm, contribute not a little to render them unwholesome. No house can be wholesome unless the air has a free passage through it. For which reason houses ought daily to be ventilated by opening opposite windows, and admitting a current of fresh air into every room. Beds, instead of being made up as soon as people rise out of them,

ought to be turned down and exposed to the fresh air from the open windows through the day. This would expel any noxious vapor, and could not fail to promote the health of the inhabitants.

In hospitals, jails, ships, &c., where that cannot be conveniently done, ventilators should be used. The method of expelling foul and introducing fresh air, by means of ventilators, is a most salutary invention.

Air which stagnates in mines, wells, cellars, &c., is extremely noxious. That kind of air is to be avoided as the most deadly poison. It often kills almost as quickly as lightning. For this reason, people should be very cautious in opening cellars that have been long shut, or going down into deep wells or pits, especially if they have been kept close covered.

Many people who have splendid houses, choose to sleep in small apartments. A bed-chamber ought always to be well aired, as it is generally occupied in the night only, when all doors and windows are shut.

Those who are obliged, on account of business, to spend the day in close towns, ought, if possible, to sleep in the country.

Delicate persons ought, as much as possible, to avoid the air of great towns. It is peculiarly hurtful to the asthmatic and consumptive. Such persons should avoid cities as they would the plague.

Surrounding houses too closely with planting or thick woods, likewise tends to render the air unwholesome. Wood not only obstructs the free current of the air, but sends forth great quantities of moist exhalations which render it constantly damp.

Houses situated in low marshy countries, or near large lakes of stagnating water are likewise unwholesome.

If fresh air be necessary for those in health, it is still more so for the sick, who often lose their lives for want of it. We are not, however, to throw open doors and windows at random upon the sick. Fresh air is to be let into the chamber gradually, and, if possible, by opening the windows of some other apartment.

The air of a sick person's chamber may be greatly freshened, and the patient much revived, by sprinkling the floor, bed, &c., frequently with vinegar, juice of lemon, or some other strong vegetable acid.

In places where numbers of sick are crowded into the same house, or, which is often the case, into the same apartment, the frequent admission of fresh air becomes absolutely necessary. Infirmarys, hospitals, &c., are often rendered so noxious, for want of proper ventilation, that the sick run more hazard from them than from the disease.—[Dr. Buchan.]

REPORT

Of the Select Committee on Petitions of numerous citizens of the State, praying for the passage of a law authorizing Thomsonian Physicians to collect pay for their services.

MR. CULVER, from the Select Committee to which was referred the petitions of numerous citizens of the State of New York, praying for the passage of a law authorizing Thomsonian physicians, under suitable restrictions, to collect pay for their services, reports as follows:

The committee have had the subject matter of these petitions under consideration. That the subject is one of deep and abiding interest to a very numerous and respectable class of citizens of the State of New York, is clearly evinced by the long continued, persevering, and earnest importunities with which the petitioners have pressed their case before the legislature. They seem to have been neither dismayed at defeat nor disheartened by rebuke. Their untiring perseverance seems to put the impress of *honesty* upon their designs and object.

They complain that their system of medical practice is, by the statute of this state, under legislative condemnation, while a system, antagonistic to theirs, having in their opinion less of merit than their own, has endorsed upon it a legislative sanction and recommendation.

Ten years and more have elapsed since the Revised Statutes went into effect, containing provisions in relations to "the practice of physic and surgery," so at war with the rights and privileges of individuals that subsequent legislation has blotted some of the most odious features of those provisions from the statute book.

By the Revised Statutes it was made both a penal and criminal offence to practice physic or surgery in this state without being authorized by law. The authority required by law was a license or diploma from some medical society or institution, recognised by this state. The offender was subjected to a fine of \$25, to be sued for and collected by the overseers of the poor; and in addition to that, was liable to be indicted and punished for a misdemeanor; to be fined or imprisoned, or both. The people rose up and remonstrated against the latter provision. In 1830 it was stricken out, retaining the penal part. A modification of the penal part was subsequently procured, exempting from its operation "a person using the roots, barks, and herbs, the growth or produce of the United States."

But another provision, and the one of which the petitioners now complain as unjust, oppressive and invidious, is left standing upon the statutes. It is that clause which prevents a "physician, not authorised by law, from collect-

ing pay for services." The operation of this provision is to compel any one wishing to practice physic, to go through with a course of study prescribed by the medical schools, pass examination by a board of censors, receive a license or diploma, and thereby compelled, *nolens volens*, to adopt and endorse the system. Or the alternative is to be debarred the right of enforcing his claim in law for the services rendered.

Of this the petitioners complain.

Your committee, being none of them of the medical profession, and none of them practical Thomsonians, are not prepared or qualified to go into and discuss the comparative merits of the two systems; nor, if competent, would they feel called on to do so. Each of the two systems has its friends and supporters; each its untiring assailants. The committee are not disposed to make inroads and innovations upon long established systems and theories; especially when those systems seem founded in truth, and supported by fact and scientific experience. But the healing art, like all others, has been for ages undergoing changes and improvements, some of them of a fundamental character. And it would be strange indeed if this system, an exception to all others, should stand out alone as having attained the ne plus ultra of human perfection. The petitioners think the "regular system," so called, susceptible of great improvement, and most earnestly contend, (whether successfully or unsuccessfully the committee will not say,) that the "Thomsonian system," so called, is a decided improvement and simplification of the former. It is a circumstance of no small moment, and one which the committee cannot disregard, that from 30,000 to 40,000 citizens of this state have pressed this subject upon the consideration of the legislature; that they have knocked at the doors of legislative justice, asking that only even handed justice might be done in the premises. And while this boon has been denied them, they allege that their numbers, friends, and advocates have been yearly increasing. Like the Israelites of old, the more they were oppressed the more they multiplied and grew. Even the intelligent of their enemies, the more candid of the "regular profession," admit that the legislative enactments, so far from effectually suppressing the Thomsonian practice, has created a public sympathy altogether conducive to its support and perpetuity. Men cannot be legislated out of one religion and into another; nor can the legislature thrust calomel and mercury down a man's throat, while he wills to take only cayenne or lobelia.

The public mind has been sorely fretted by the legal enactments on this subject; and the more so, as each revolving year has but increased

the advocates of the new system, and in the estimation of the petitioners has brought out new facts and new proof in their system. And if the legislature will profit by the experience and observation of the five years past, it will be satisfied that our existing laws will no sooner put down the advocates of the Thomsonian system, than Canada thistles can be exterminated in June by cutting down the stalk, having ten prolific branches to the root. And as the committee have before intimated, while we would not claim to sit as umpires to decide between the contending parties, it is due to the petitioners to state two or three prominent points on which they rely for success of their application, and the final triumph of their system.

They contend that their system of practice is founded on the immutable laws of nature; they believe it to be a philosophical mode of treating disease; they appeal with great confidence to the success which has attended that mode of treatment. They adduce as evidence of this success, the fact that there are now in this state 200 permanently located practitioners, obtaining a competent support in spite of the organized opposition and legislative proscription under which they have been compelled to labor. They claim that their system, so far as the practice of medicine is concerned, is a complete system; that one skilled in it will in no case have to borrow of the "regular faculty."

They maintain that man, "in his original constitution, is made of the elementary principles of matter, and is in health when all the elements of his nature are in due proportion, or perfectly balanced; that disease ensues whenever there is a derangement of the vital functions; or in other words, that disease is an obstruction in the natural operations of the laws of animal life; that hence the appropriate office of the physician should be that of nature's auxiliary; that the remedies applied should act in harmony with the natural laws of life; that these remedies are to be sought for in the garden which nature has spread out."

They repudiate the idea that an absolute poison can be safely or efficiently used in restoring to health. They deny that lobelia is a poison, and contend that fifty years' use has demonstrated that it will not, in any case, produce the destruction of animal organization; that its enemies have again and again been invited to point out its poisonous properties; that they have failed to do so, other than by naked assertion.

They contend that their term of preparatory study is properly shorter and less complicated than the old system, because of the improved and simplified process of their practice; they maintain that they are not obnoxious to the charge of "quackery and empiricism;" that a

quack is one who pretends to know what he does not, and they profess themselves happy in the reflection that quacks are not exclusively confined to the Thomsonian creed, but may often be seen with their diplomas in their hand, and dignified with the title of M. D.

They adduce, as further evidence in favor of their improved system, the fact that many eminent physicians of the regular school, men of high attainments and professional skill, have abandoned the old and adopted the new system, and that these too have come in for their share of epithets of "quacks and empirics;" and these men themselves, who have left the old school ranks and gone to the new, notwithstanding their admitted qualifications to practise successfully in the former, have conceded that those who have prepared themselves for practice by a simple compliance with the Thomsonian rules, are equally skilful with themselves, and equally well qualified to practise on that system; from which they infer, that the old course of preparation is not indispensable to a successful practise in the new.

They complain of another grievous imposition: that is, that students, who conscientiously believe in the superiority of the Thomsonian system, cannot obtain diplomas from the "regular school," even though they may have passed the ordeal of examination; that however well qualified, they cannot obtain license to practise from the medical societies now organized by law, unless he renounces his "heretical notions" in medicine; and in support of this complaint they allude to the expulsion of a Montgomery, Hersey, Saunders, Roullon, Griffin, and others, for having avowed their belief in the superiority of the Thomsonian system. They hence contend that they are compelled to sacrifice an honest conviction, or stand proscribed by the enactment of the legislature.

In addition to all this, the petitioners adduce some high and distinguished authorities from the regular school, in support of their theory and practice. At the head of these authorities stands the learned Dr. Benjamin Waterhouse, late Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine in Harvard University. He held that station twenty-five years.

Dr. Waterhouse, as early as 1824, expressed his confidence in the Thomsonian system; honored its founder, Dr. Samuel Thomson, with the title of Reformer; warmly commended the use of lobelia and the vapor bath; pronounced the use of them, in sagacious hands, an improvement valuable in practice; bore testimony that like Hippocrates of old, the author of this system had wisely studied the Book of Nature. Another authority from the regular school is Dr. Montgomery, an eminent physician in South

Carolina, who attended the lectures of Drs. Rush, Woodhouse, and Barton, at Philadelphia, was a graduate of one of our colleges. After a trial of both systems, he frankly gave in his adhesion to the latter, and renounced the former. A number of other physicians of high standing have adopted this new practice.

Messrs. Edgerton, Metcalf and Dimick, of the N. Y. legislature, in 1828, took occasion to investigate and learn, from personal observation, the nature of this system of practice and its result; some of them visited the patients of Dr. Thomson and witnessed the mode of treatment and the effect, and all were satisfied of its merits and efficacy. Also, Messrs. Elbridge and Soper, of the Assembly, in 1829, and Messrs. Hammond and Buckman, members in 1830, were satisfied, from a personal inquiry of those who had been subjects to this mode of treatment, of its success.

The committee, in justice to the petitioners, have felt called on to spread out in this report some few of the points on which they rest their application; especially as they would not have an opportunity to appear in person before the legislature and defend their system.

The committee are admonished that some legislative action is called for in this state, from the march of public sentiment abroad. Other states have taken the lead in this matter. Maryland, in 1838, abolished these restrictions. It is believed Georgia did the same in 1840. Rhode Island and Pennsylvania have no such restrictions; and Vermont and Maine have blotted them from their statute books, one in 1838, and the other in 1839.

From all these facts and indications, your committee think that justice should be done to the petitioners; that these prohibitions should be removed; that their system should be left to stand or fall on its own merits, unaided by any "special legislation," and unfettered by any special legislative restraint.

Your committee believe this, and this only, will allay the irritation of the public mind on this subject. Prof. Eaton, of Troy, who is one of the petitioners, and who has been for some years professor in a regular medical institution, and whose professional standing and reputation entitle his opinions to great weight, is in favor of the legislation asked; his recommendation is to let them make their trial, collect their pay, believing that experience is better than theory.

It is due to the petitioners to state, that while they ask these legislative restrictions removed, they do not ask to be exempted from responsibility, civil and criminal, for mal-practice. They wish to stand in this respect, on a level with other physicians.

Your committee, therefore, without seeking

to endorse the one or condemn the other of these systems, choose to rest the legislation asked for on the broad ground of justice and absolute right to the petitioner, and ask a measure of public policy. They have, therefore, come to an unanimous conclusion in favor of the prayer of the petitioners, and directed their chairman to ask leave to introduce a bill.

WHO ARE THE HAPPY?

It is not he with coffers filled
With silver and with gold—
Spurning the child whose limbs are chilled
With winter's piercing cold.

Not he who climbs the giddy height
Where proud ambition reigns—
Who, as he urges on his flight,
The voice of grief disdains.

Not he whose cold and selfish breast
Ne'er felt for others' woe—
Who never has the orphan blest,
Nor wiped the tears that flow.

Not he who when his neighbor falls,
Extends no friendly hands—
And when his suffering brother calls,
At a proud distance stands.

Not he who labors to destroy
His brother's worthy name—
Whose hours base calumnies employ,
His neighbors to defame.

These are not happy. They alone
Who live to bless mankind—
Who others' sorrows make their own,
True happiness will find.

MECHANICS.

There is not a more truly valuable class of persons in the community than the mechanics. It is said, we admit, that the farmers compose the "bone and sinew" of the land. This may be true in the country where agriculture is the business which occupies the attention of a large majority of the people; but here, in the city, at all events, it is the mechanics who are entitled to claim that distinction. We might go on and institute comparisons between the two classes—and show the superiority of the latter in many respects, while in others, perhaps, the former might surpass them. But this is unnecessary; we entertain for each, respectively, the highest esteem, and regard them, united, as the main pillar of our Government—the hope and glory of the country. They are both the producer of wealth; their labor gives to us the necessities and luxuries of life; while their practical intelligence and the stern virtues in which they are schooled, give stability and safety to our free institutions.

It is, however, of the mechanics, as a body, that we propose to speak at this time. If there is any class of persons who deserve encouragement and support, they are the ones. In the first place, although they make less noise than many others, yet in this city they doubtless outnumber all others. There is an almost countless legion of them here, and numerous as they are, are comparatively more free from idleness, intemperance and vice, than the members of any other calling in life. The reason of this may be found in the fact, that they are early taught the virtues of industry and frugality. They are generally able to keep themselves constantly engaged in useful employment, and thereby escape those habits of indulgence which are sure, sooner or later, to lead their victims to poverty, wretchedness, and crime. They not only labor hard steadily, but generally systematically, observing certain rules and regulations which render their efforts more effectual, and teach them the importance of order in all the departments of life. It is such men who deserve success in the world, and it is gratifying to know that they usually obtain it. Many of the richest men in the country are mechanics, and a very large majority of those who live in the enjoyment of that happy medium which gives them neither poverty nor riches, but confers on them the title of "good livers," are of the same class. They do not rack their brains and run the danger of ruining both their temporal and moral interests in driving some gambling speculation by which they hope to amass sudden wealth. On the contrary, they toil on with industry, patience, and perseverance, gradually enriching themselves and the country, by the production of value, instead of striving merely to accumulate property in the legitimate way, as indicated by the laws of nature; and while their bodies are rendered healthy and vigorous by their manly exercises, they are not disturbed in the enjoyment of their good things by any compunctious visitings of conscience as to the manner of obtaining them. There is another advantage attending their pursuits—the facilities offered them for mental cultivation. They not only have time for reading during the leisure hours which the orderly prosecution of their business affords them, but in most cases their business itself is of a nature which calls for much thought, and furnishes a good method of disciplining the intellectual faculties.

Congregated, too, as they commonly are, in cities and villages they are enabled to establish institutes and literary societies, by which all are incited to competition and improvement. Hence it is that we find mechanics, as a body, more intelligent than any other class of laboring men. There are those, however, who would compel

them to take an inferior station in society merely on account of their calling. A more detestable sentiment than this was never entertained; we have no patience to speak of it! The labors of the mechanic are indispensable to keep society from sinking back into barbarism. He is intelligent, virtuous, benevolent, and patriotic; in short he is a nobleman compared to the narrow and drivelled mind that would degrade him without regard to his merits, and solely on account of his occupation. There are, we know, many individual exceptions to the commendatory remarks which we have made in regard to the character of mechanics. Some of them, it must be confessed, are foolish enough to destroy themselves by frequenting the haunts of idleness and vice. We have, however, spoken of them as a body, and in that light we are satisfied that our words will hold good.—[New York Sun.]

AMERICAN BAR.—"What on airth" said the clockmaker, "can a black gound have to do with intelligence? Them sort of liveries may do in Europe, but they don't convene to our free and enlightened citizens. It's too foreign for us, to onphilosophical, too feudal, and a remain of the dark ages. No, sir, our lawyers do as they like. Some on 'em dress in black, and some in white; some carry walking sticks, and some shave the table, and some put their legs under the desks, and some put 'em on top of 'em, just as it suits them. They sit as they please, dress as they please, and talk as they please; we are a free people. I guess if a judge in our country was to order the lawyers to appear all dressed in black they'd soon ax him who elected him director general of fashion, and where he found such arbitrary power in the constitution, as that, committed to any man."—[The Clockmaker.]

THE OLDEST MAN.—At a confirmation which took place in a parish in Surrey, the clergyman, examining a simple country girl, asked her if she knew who was the oldest man? She promptly replied, "If you please, sir, they say old Master Goring, the tailor, is." "You are a very weak girl," said the reverend gentleman. "I am indeed, sir," was the reply, "because I have taken a great deal of doctor's stuff lately, and that has made me weak."

PHILOSOPHY OF DEFEAT.—"He that will do no good offices after a disappointment, must stand still and do just nothing at all. The plough goes on after a barren year; and while the ashes are yet warm, we raise a new house upon the ruins of a former."—[Seneca.]

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, MARCH 15, 1841.

NOTICE.—Those persons who have received three or four numbers of the present volume of our paper, will bear in mind that they are responsible for the whole volume. We shall stop no more papers, until the subscriber pays what he already owes. This notice is given on account of papers being returned by subscribers, who have received and kept several numbers of the volume, and now request it discontinued. We can't do it till you pay up. Our first number contained our terms; and had you returned that paper, our acquaintance would have ceased; but as you did not, we shall stick to you till November, "like a chestnut burr to a sheep's back."

THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

The rapid spread of *Thomsonism*, and the great demand for medicines manufactured by Doctor Samuel Thomson, within a few years, has been a great inducement with many small minded, grovelling individuals to assume the name "*Thomsonian*," and to set up the compounding, manufacturing and vending of medicines and christening them "*Thomsonian*," when they bear little or no resemblance to those which are, in reality of the sort that the purchaser thinks he is receiving. The Thomsonian system has spread rapidly over the States; and as it introduces itself into families, these fellows of the mean dispositions mentioned above, find it an easy matter, by raising their false standard, to delude and make captive those who have become convinced of the superiority of Doctor Samuel Thomson's system and medicines over all others, but who are not familiar enough with either, to detect the spurious from the genuine. It is a duty incumbent upon the friends of the system, to warn their acquaintances, and those

with whom they have dealings, of these wolves in sheep's clothing.

Our readers are already aware, that a shop of the "independent" sort has been opened in this city within a few rods of Doct. Thomson's own establishment. The proprietor of this establishment has, through the columns of his periodical, proclaimed to the world, that Doctor Samuel Thomson, is a counterfeiter of his own discoveries—that he adulterates his medicines! How absurd a story this! How contemptible must its author appear in the estimation of every one who knows the trials and hardships that Samuel Thomson endured in bringing his system to its present high position. Can any one believe for a moment that he would now condescend to be as base as his calumniators, and sell medicines that would have a tendency soon to destroy all he has so admirably achieved and effected? No! As soon should we believe *George Washington* an enemy to America, as *Samuel Thomson* guilty of making adulterated medicines. We pity while we condemn men who for the sake of gain, resort to such mean and contemptible acts, thus endeavoring to raise themselves by calumniating and abusing those who are as far above themselves, both in honest dealing and sound judgment, as the heavens are above the earth.

When Absalom would raise himself with his father David's people, he came before them insinuating, that his father had not been faithful unto them—that they had not had justice done them, and exclaiming, "Oh that I were made judge in the land, that every man which hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice." Are not the whining complaints, and hypocritical denunciations against Doctor Thomson, of a piece with those made by Absalom? If our modern Absalom could but break down the father of Thomsonism, how soon the people would have justice done them! Of the honesty of such pharisaical people we were always suspicious; for by their denunciations of all who belong not to their banditti, they make their own intentions manifest, which is deception, and of such we deem it our duty to warn the public.

The medicines which Doctor Thomson manufactures and sells are pure and give satisfaction to all who make a thorough trial of them. We speak from experience, and the deception and falsehoods of malice and avarice, cannot make it otherwise.

The greater fidelity is likely to be experienced from that man whom we have proved the more worthy.—[Tacitus.

"PHYSICIANS OF BOSTON.—Some weeks since, animadversions were made on Mr. Dickinson's catalogue of Boston physicians, published in his popular Almanac. A second edition has appeared, in which a correction has been made in the obnoxious registration of the Boston faculty. The irregulars and regulars are so designated that the people can touch and take—for there are all sorts of medicine-mongers grouped together alphabetically. 'The *steamers* have great hope of placing the educated gentlemen of the profession in a minority—and at the present rate of popular progressive ignorance, which is hailed by some as a blessed epoch of just rights and equable laws in physic, they will certainly count a majority before the opening of another century."

The above *precious morsel* is from the Boston Med. and Surg. Journal, of March 3d. The "steamers" are as happy, undoubtedly, to hear of the correction referred to by the Editor of the Journal, as he is. Although they may not stand in the same fear of losing their "dignity," yet they covet not the *honor* of being placed in the same list with *butchers*. Thomsonians would by all means be "so designated that the people can touch and take." Dr. Smith appears to be under the "alarming symptoms," but he must keep up good courage, for patients who have been freely *stuffed* with "science," are rather apt to have them when under the influence of lobelia. We trust he will feel better soon.

It is a fact that "the steamers"—this being the name by which our neighbor of the Journal sees fit to designate Thomsonians—"have great hope of placing the *educated gentlemen* [calomel doctors] of the profession in a minority;" not, however, by "the present rate of progressive ignorance," but through the medium of REASON, COMMON SENSE and TRUTH, urged home to the minds of a free and enlightened people, who are just awakening to a sense of the danger of not only a national but universal system of POISONING! And it is this, and not "popular progressive ignorance" as *sneeringly* stated by the Journal, "which is hailed as a blessed epoch of just rights and equable laws in physic," and which will enable Thomsonians, long "before the opening of another century," to place the mineral doctors in a minority.

Why in the name of wonder, Dr. Smith, do you continue to utter declamations against the Thomsonian practice, without any show of argument? Why repeat over your thread-bare epithets of "ignoramus," "quacks," "impostors," &c., &c.? If the Thomsonian system is based upon ignorance, why was it not long since razed to the ground by the powerful engines of *learning* and *science* of the regular school of physic, established both by custom and law? If Thomsonism be the

height of quackery and absurdity, why do not the regulars, possessing, as they profess to, all the respectability, talent, learning, science and skill, why do they not, we ask, meet Thomsonians in fair argument, as they have often been challenged to do, and show the public wherein consists the deception? Have they ever done this? Never! But, on the contrary, they have continued to pour forth their calumny and abuse upon Dr. Thomson and his disciples, stigmatising all who have dared to throw off the shackles of error and prejudice, in their own ranks, and embrace simple truth, as "quacks," have called upon legislators to enact laws to support the old practice and put down the new, and exerted all their influence whenever a patient has died under the Thomsonian treatment to have the practitioner indicted for *murder*!

As Thomsonism is rapidly increasing, it is certainly the duty of the regulars—if they consider it a public imposition whereby millions of people are even now deceived—to adopt some measures whereby its onward march may be impeded, ere we have a *nation* of Thomsonians! This is no slight consideration, and we trust that the Editor of the Journal will look to it before it is too late. The medical faculty are, most assuredly, well paid for their services, and they should not remain inactive while their deadly foe, Thomsonism, is yearly alluring thousands of credulous human beings within his rapacious jaws!

"But what shall we do?" inquire the mineral fraternity; "we have already used our utmost exertions to destroy this *monster*, but without avail. We have brought into action all the learning of the schools—all the *science* of our vast and dignified profession, aided by the strong arm of the law—we have cried "quackery," "ignorance," and "murder," until the cry is no longer heeded—we have prosecuted and persecuted, vilified and falsified, and brought into requisition all other similar means, usually wielded by our august body—what more can we do?"

We will tell you what more to do; meet Thomsonians with fair argument instead of abuse. Let the merits of the two systems be freely and candidly discussed before the public. The old excuse that Thomsonians are too *insignificant* for sober consideration will no longer serve. "Our name is legion." And in a country where all institutions are based upon the broad and democratic principle that "all men are born free and equal," numbers will demand respect. Although we cannot as yet count upon so much learning, talent and wealth, as the mineral fraternity, yet we have even an abler auxiliary in the People themselves. We can

safely rely upon the "bone and sinew" of the country; which, although nearly destroyed by the corrupting effects of *calomel*, is fast being restored to vigor and soundness by the purifying influence of Thomsonism.

Dr. Curtis, of the "Botanico-Medical Recorder," must certainly be a *very humane* man, judging from the reply which he gives to one of his correspondents, who asks advice in the treatment of venereal disease. The writer says, he has never failed of curing it, in its worst stages, within nine weeks, but thinks it should be cured in a shorter time. Here we see a man who has some feeling for his fellow creature; he wishes to relieve him as soon as possible from the fruits of sin, as, if he be a physician, it is his duty to do. Not so with Dr. Curtis, as will be seen by his answer.

"Keep clear of the causes. These are illicit indulgences, and excess of those that are lawful. For cases produced by the first cause, 'your nine weeks' practice' is soon enough to cure them; and you should not be careful to make it very pleasant to them at that. If you cure them too speedily or easily, they will disregard the danger and sin of repetition. We always practise *pretty severely* on such chaps. If the severity of steaming and cayenne, alarming symptoms, &c., is justifiable in any cases, these are the proper ones. We have sprinkled a tea-spoonful of the best cayenne into a sore half an inch deep, an inch wide, and four inches long. 'The burnt child dreads the fire,' it is said. Then put on a poultice of lobelia, slippery elm and bitter herbs, with a little cracker or bread for a body, wet with canker teas. These, with steaming and vomiting, and the laxative, depurating pills, made of lobelia seed, nervine, bitter-root, golden seal, cayenne and butter-nut extract, and slippery elm, will do the work.

"But we have said that these forms of disease are among the *frequent* and *serious* evils of legal excesses, through *ignorance*; and this induces us, however unpleasant, to give them this notice in the Recorder. *We have seen much domestic* suffering from this cause. As it is not often the worst form of these diseases, a mild treatment will remove it, *provided* the subjects are aware of the causes and refrain from their repetition. For the want of this consciousness and correspondent conduct, we have seen these mild cases prove very obstinate to the practitioner, and in some instances totally incurable. '*Verbum sat.*'"

We would ask if any one would be willing to place themselves at the mercy of a man who *practises severely* with patients whom he considers to have contracted disease by improper conduct. Are not all diseases brought on by carelessness and imprudence, and is it right to torture and extend the length of a patient's suffering, as a punishment for it, to nine weeks, because he has been

imprudent in some of his actions? We say it is a physician's duty to do the best he can for his patient, and to cure him as soon as he can. We complain of the old faculty because they keep their patients sick a long time in order to run up a large bill; but can there be much difference between their treatment and that recommended in the sentence, "nine weeks practice is soon enough to cure them?" We think not. It may be to drain a good sum out of the "chaps," so they may be forced, by want of means, however much they may have the inclination, from participating in "illicit indulgences." You may punish your patients by sprinkling cayenne into long and deep sores, but it will not extinguish their desires for evil indulgences. You must convince them of the folly of bad conduct, the injury it is bringing upon them, and the difference between virtue and vice in promoting their happiness, before you can "prevent a repetition." Show them by your treatment that by administering to their necessities and giving them advice, you have their happiness in view. Kind treatment, and the sympathy of friends, will have a greater influence in reforming those who have wandered from the path of virtue, than all the scourges, harsh treatment, sneers and scoffs, that human ingenuity can invent.

AN UNMITIGATED SANGRADO.—There was a discussion at the Marlboro' Chapel on Wednesday evening, between a Dr. Draper, of Philadelphia, an advocate of the Thomsonian theory, and a person who calls himself "Dr. Watson," who has been practising in this city for several years, and who is an advocate for the free use of the lancet and mercury. This "Dr. Watson," in the course of his remarks, stated that in the course of four years and a half, he had taken from the citizens of Boston and vicinity, *one hundred barrels of blood*, and had administered *forty-nine pounds of calomel*! How many persons had fallen victims to his abominable mode of practice, was not stated. But one person came forward, a mere skeleton, evidently standing on the brink of the grave, to bear testimony to the pernicious consequences of this "Dr. Watson's" mode of treating diseases. He told a piteous tale, which had the effect of exciting the indignation of the audience against this letter of blood and administerer of mercury, and the meeting was broken up in disorder. It is strange that men and women, claiming to be rational beings, will suffer themselves to be gulled, even to death.

We understand that the above famous bleeder, (we might say butcher,) has expressed an opinion that *his* practice and the Thomsonian should be united. Heaven save us! The two practices are as different as light and darkness, and to have a man come into the ranks, who has the boldness to boast of having drawn *one hundred barrels* of

blood, in four years, is what the worst of counterfeits never thought of. We hope, at least, that the system will be kept clear of blood-letters, however much blue flagg and other poisonous Botanists force themselves into it !

Dr. Draper, (the gentleman referred to in the above article, which we copy from the *Mercantile Journal*,) in his lectures before our citizens a few weeks ago, did ample justice to the *lancet* and *calomel*. And we think our citizens, after having the merits of the old depletive system fairly laid before them, and the opinions of writers from its own ranks cited in numerous cases, which only go to condemn their practice, will be led to examine into the Thomsonian practice, which has been so much spoken against.

✍ We would invite the attention of our readers to the report of the select Committee, in the legislature of New York, to whom were referred the petitions from numerous individuals to that body, praying the abolition of their abominable law regulating the practice of medicine, whereby Thomsonians are prevented from collecting pay for their services. We hardly need say it is an able document, and calculated to convince any one of the injustice of the law, however much he might have deemed it necessary, before perusing the Report. It will be found in this number of the Manual, and we think will be read with pleasure by our friends. We annex to these remarks an extract on this subject, from the Harrisburg (Pa.) *Keystone*, which is much to the point, and is as follows:—

“A select committee of the New York Assembly, on the petitions of numerous citizens of the State, praying for the passage of a law authorising Thomsonian physicians to collect pay for their services, have come to an unanimous conclusion in favor of the petitioners. The prayer of the petitioners is reasonable, and a bill such as they ask for ought to be granted. A physician practising on that system should have the same facilities granted him for collecting pay for his services as any other. It is not for any legislative body to say which system is right or which is wrong; the public will determine that matter by employing those whose skill and experience afford the most relief.”

✍ The following specimen of science, we cut from an exchange—it is almost equal to a scientific receipt :

The following dialogue took place between a young student, just returned from college, and his father's overseer, on meeting at a distant plantation in the District of Columbia.

Overseer. Mr. ———, how is your father ?

Student. Why, the intense frigidity of the cir-

cumambient atmosphere, had so congealed the pellucid aqueous fluid of the enormous river Potomac, that with the most superb reluctance I was constrained to procrastinate my premeditated egress into the pallatine province of Maryland, for the Chemical, Galenical and Surgical aid of a distinguished son of *Æsculapius*, till the deliterious effects of the poisonous matter had so far entered the pericramium of my parental parent in consanguinity, as to obliterate every spark of vivification.

Overseer. I ax'd you how your father was?

Student. He is dead, sir. Good morning.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A 'THOMSONIAN.—No. VI.

In the month of October, 1837, I called upon Mr. J. B. W., who resided in Munroe st., New York, a gentleman with whom I had formerly boarded, and found him confined to the house, afflicted with a severe cough, great soreness about the region of the lungs, continual pain from the right breast through to the shoulders, night sweats, loss of appetite, great prostration of strength and difficulty of breathing. He had been failing for about six weeks, but had taken nothing except some simple remedy for his cough, for believing himself to be in a consumption, he had determined, he said, to die without being tortured or hurried out of the world by the doctors. A number of his brothers and sisters had died of consumption, and always failed much more rapidly, he said, after the doctor was called to them : he had therefore years before made up his mind never to employ a physician, if he should be attacked with the same malady. I told him he had acted wisely, so far as regarded the employment of a fashionable physician, but I had no doubt that three or four courses of Thomsonian medicine would arrest the progress of his disease. He had never taken any of the Thomsonian medicines, and was but little acquainted with their nature. I explained to him briefly the principles of the practice, related some cases similar to his own where I had known the medicines to produce a salutary effect. His wife joined in immediately with me in endeavoring to persuade him to go to the Thomsonian Infirmary, but he had not sufficient confidence in the practice to place himself under it. At the earnest solicitation however of his wife, he said he would take one course, at home, if I would give it. So he sent for some composition and biters and took freely of them for two or three days, when I again called and gave him a thorough course of medicine, which operated admirably.

At 2 o'clock P. M., he sat down to the table with a better appetite than he had enjoyed for a month, felt perfectly free from all pain, and was very much encouraged, and said he would take another course whenever I could attend to it. I charged him to be careful about exposing himself, and left him.

The next day at noon I called to see how he did, and, to my astonishment and regret, found him worse than ever. After I left him the day before, he felt very smart, and as it was pleasant he walked down to his store and back, a distance of two or three hundred yards. This did not hurt him, but when he got back to the house they were washing up the floor of the kitchen, and thinking it too damp for him there, he went into the parlor where there was no fire, and sat down to read, where he remained until near dark, when he was suddenly taken with a chill, which was the first to alarm him of his danger. He immediately commenced taking hot drinks, went to bed and had steaming stones placed around him, and used every means they could devise to throw off the cold, but it was midnight before they got him warm. In the morning his cough, pains, and all his symptoms were more unfavorable than ever. And although he admitted that the course of medicine helped him very much, and was satisfied that his own carelessness was the sole cause of the relapse, yet it was with the greatest difficulty that I could persuade him into the immediate necessity of taking another course. At length I told him come I should the next day and give another course; for said I, otherwise you will certainly die, the Thomsonian medicines will be charged with your death, and I shall be taken up for administering them.

Accordingly, the next morning I commenced and gave him another course, which operated full as favorably as the first. He took care of himself properly this time, and the next day he was agreeably surprised in his change for the better. And to the astonishment of all, he gained rapidly from that day—was able in two or three days to attend to his business, and in two weeks' time was better than he had been for a year. I was surprised myself at this speedy cure, for I expected he would require at least four or five courses.

For the Manual.

CASE OF MIDWIFERY.

MR. EDITOR:—I just now feel in a good humor to write you a few lines for my favorite journal. The reason why, is, that I have just (about eight hours ago) had the pleasure of delivering my dear better-half of a large, healthy daughter. And I

did it upon the plan of our venerable leader in true medical science, Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON.

The reason why I make this a subject to write on, is, that I am fully of the opinion of Dr. Thomson and his friends, that the business of *midwifery* belongs to the tender sex, and not to men. And in accordance with my opinion I resolved, that if any *man* was to act the part of an *accoucher*, I would be him. In order, however, to get rid of attending the *painful circumstance*, I made inquiry through this large town, and to my utter astonishment and mortification could not find *one* midwife; so much are the people doctor-ridden here!! Finding this to be the case, I sent, two weeks ago, for my friend Dr. S. F. Reynolds, Thomsonian practitioner at Chambersburg, Pa., to pay me a visit at my expense, for the purpose of explaining to me more fully than I had gathered from books, how to proceed in all things relative to the “modus operandi” of midwifery, (is this phrase right?—I wish we Thomsonians would all stop using Latin and other strange words; and substitute such as plain folks could understand. If they all will, I will too, but you know I want to *appear learned* as well as the rest of my brethren.) Well, the doctor (who is a tender-hearted man, an able and attentive physician, and who has uncommon good success in his practice on account of his adherence to Dr. Thomson's principles,) came, and imparted to me, as one of his old acquaintances, the knowledge I sought. We parted, he wishing my lady a successful delivery, and I determined to save her feelings both moral and physical, by keeping a stranger away from her bed-side, and the cruel treatment, often endured by suffering mothers, out of the question.

This is our fifth child, and my wife, from her knowledge of the sufferings of some others of her sex, is grateful for having a Thomsonian for a husband.—She calls me so often away from my desk to wait on her and the “little responsibilities” about us, that I am making a poor affair of this letter.—I wish, however, to show others an example of perseverance in a good cause, both by attending her myself, and communicating the result of my attendance to your valuable paper.

Mrs. W. commenced drinking tea of raspberry and spiced-bitters mixed, about a week ago, and kept on every day, by which course she prepared herself for the struggle. Heretofore, she took nothing till the pains commenced, and on each occasion she suffered for at least twelve hours. This time, by using the above tea three or more times a day, her sufferings lasted but five hours; and the after-birth came in about thirty minutes after

the child. It is worth a father's while to attend his wife in such a case for the information he gains by experience, relating to the first age of his species—their creation and birth. O, what a wonderful creation! What a great and wise Creator! The first of this world's sweet and bitter which the little stranger *tasted*, was spiced-bitters, well sweetened. Thus at once it was introduced into the family of Thomsonians. My children, sir, will all be firm Thomsonians: they now, all that can speak, when feeling unwell, ask for *composition tea*. It is laughable, but pleasing to me, to hear them ask for it even before they can articulate rightly, and call it "*comptshin tea*." I must close, for my sheet is full.

Yours, with esteem,

J. F. WEISHAMPLE.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON—Sir,—I must crave your advice on a case I now have under my care. The patient has had the rheumatism for a number of years, (five or six,) has been under the direction of an M. D. for three or four of the time, but has derived no benefit, as is generally the case. I have given him seven or eight courses of medicine, but I can't see but very little if any alteration. His ankles are swollen very badly, and it is with great difficulty that he can walk. I have made free use of the vapor bath, and applied poultices to his ankles, composed of cayenne, corn-meal and vinegar. He is easier at times, but he do n't mend fast enough to please me. I wish you would give me advice in this case, and oblige your well wisher,

J. M'NEIL GARTRILL.

Eubanks, (Ga.,) Dec. 19, 1840.

ADVICE.—Bathe with rheumatic drops frequently. Give complete and full courses, bathing with third preparation while under the operation of the medicines and give thorough steam—hold the heat as long as possible. But the most important thing in the business is to have good medicine, as many of the compounds in the country are worse than useless. Poor medicines will do no good in the best of hands.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

☞ The above was answered by return of mail, but we insert it here in the hope of its being useful to others besides the inquirer.—[ED. MAN.]

Dr. Charles Raymond, of Albion, (N.Y.,) died recently from the effects of poison imbibed in dissecting a corpse—he having at the time a sore upon one of his thumbs, through which the fatal infection passed.

PEPPER AND MUSTARD.—A druggist in London has written and published a letter to a member of Parliament, stating that almost every drug and necessary of life is adulterated to an enormous extent, before offered for sale in the market. As to the *drugs*, let them pass; but the *culinary* preparations we cannot so easily excuse. The *genuine* West India cayenne pepper is now made in London, and if it contained nothing but the ground berry of the *piper indica*, selected of a good color, the writer says he should desire no better. But colored saw-dust, salt, vermillion, and other ingredients, are added. Ginger is often adulterated with flour and meal, flavored with capsicum to give it the requisite warmth. Mustard seed to the amount of one-sixth only, and in many kinds not near so much as that, enters into the composition of the best Durham mustard, which is Durham only in name, the rest being composition of some kind, colored up with tumeric, and spiced with capsicum. Black pepper is mixed with starch, powder, and English arrow-root, to make white pepper. Coffee is mixed with the burnt root of the dandelion, known as chicory, which, from its being ground at the drug mills, is itself liable to adulteration. But we are civilly told this is the French mode, and of course the coffee is much improved by its admixture. Chocolate and cocoa are mixed with ground sago, often itself unfit for sale in any other state.

FISH.—Fish can be kept alive for several days, by means of spiritous liquors. Some kind may be preserved in winter for 15 or 18 days, and pike for 12 days, by placing a piece of bread soaked in brandy in their mouths, and burying them in snow, or even in straw or hay. In summer, beer or wine answers as a substitute for brandy, when they should be closed in moss or grass saturated with the same liquor. They are brought to life again by wrapping them up in wet linen, after having taken the piece of bread out of their mouths, and then putting them into fresh water. Eels are much more tenacious of life. It is sufficient to put them into a vessel with damp earth and fresh grass.

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT.—Two blooming young ladies got *cotched* out in a shower very recently, and when they got home, the rain had washed the very *color out of their cheeks*!

"You are a queer chicken," said the hen to a hawk which she had hatched among the brood.

"I know I am," said the hawk; "but that is no reason why I should be *hen pecked*."

☞ There is something deeply touching—thrilling—we might say disagreeable, in the question—*Will you pay this bill, Sir?*

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Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his **GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET**, near Cross street.


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The following is a list of some of the medicines for sale at the above establishment, with their prices annexed:—

Cayenne,	\$1.00 per lb.	12½ cts.	per oz.
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Healing Salve,	1.00	" 12½ "	"
Lobelia, green	2.00	" 25 "	"
Lobelia Seed, pulv.	3.00	" 25 "	"
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Nerve Powder,	2.50	" 20 "	"
Poplar Bark,	0.50	" 12½ "	"
Raspberry Leaves,	0.50	" 12½ "	"
Spiced Bitters,	1.00	" 12½ "	"
Strengthening Plaster,	1.00	" 20 "	"
Slippery Elm Bark,	1.00	" 12½ "	"
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Unicorn Root,	2.50	" 25 "	"
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DR. THOMSON will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be *post paid* or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

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GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.


 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.


BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

 **CONDITIONS.**—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

 Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding **TEN DOLLARS**, *free of postage*, will receive **EIGHT COPIES** for one year. Clubs remitting **FIVE DOLLARS**, will receive **THREE COPIES**. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the **INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street**, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the **MANUAL** can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct 1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.”—SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, APRIL 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 10.]

PRACTICE ACCORDING TO NATURE.

Without our health, this world's a dreary waste,
All other things compared, are void of taste ;
But fashion leads in physic as in dress,
And all must follow it for happiness.
Mistaken mortals ! think you nature's plan
Bends to our feelings, to regard proud man ?
Remove our maladies in fashion's course,
Change nature's laws, regain our health by force ?

No ! stubborn nature never will be changed,
However much we have ourselves deranged.
In giving med'cine as in giving food,
One law directs us for the patient's good.
Kind nature always helps to move complaints,
Unless prevented—if there's no restraints ;
Then, to assist the friend, the foe destroy,
Is what we're bound to do, in that employ.

A “REGULAR” DIALOGUE.

The following dialogue on regular medical science appears to have been copied by the Editor of the *Botanico-Medical Recorder*, from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*. It is a tolerable fair specimen of what is termed “medical science.” It is impossible to peruse the article without at once seeing the absurdity and vanity of “regular” bred mineral doctors, who make pretence to cure the sick in a “scientific” manner, and in accordance with the laws of nature and experience !

Who will read and examine for himself, and then say that science is not exhibited in a labyrinth of opinions, varying as the south from the north pole.—[Phil. Thom. Sent.

Hippocrates, “The Father of the Healing Art.” Gentlemen, my observation and experience convince me that it is our duty to watch the operations and indications of Nature, to aid her whenever we can, but rather do nothing than oppose her.

Galen. Yes, so think I, and I believe there are a multitude of remedies which may be applied with great advantage—indeed, the vegetable kingdom abounds with them ; but mercury, which I learn is talked of as a medicine, is a poison, and, as such, ought not to be given to cure disease.

Paracelsus. I have seen some wonderful effects produced on the system by the use of poisons ; and for my part, I intend to try various articles of the kind, I believe they can be used

to good advantage, at least to the fame and purse of the practitioner.

Boorhaave. I have examined the subject pretty thoroughly, and think the best plan is to “keep the feet warm, the head cool, the body open, and reject all physicians.”

Lieutaud. I have studied the whole subject too, and I find it so difficult to separate the useful from the trivial, that I shall cast it all aside, and make new observations out of which to form a sounder theory.

Abercrombie. Gentlemen, we might as well confess the whole truth as not, that our whole pretended science, is but a system of guessing, the art of conjecture, mere learned quackery. We know neither the seat nor the cause of disease nor the action of remedies. Our practice resembles the conduct of a blind man armed with a club and striking in the dark. If we hit the disease we kill it ; if we hit the patient, we kill him.

Sydenham. I have no doubt, gentlemen, that the blood is somehow or other the principal cause of disease, and think, if we draw off that, we shall generally effect a cure.

Deweese. It is the only certain means of reducing the inflammation.

Thatcher. We have no infallible rule to direct us ; a precipitate decision is fraught with danger, and a mistake is certain death.

Mackintosh. No physician, however skilful, can determine how much blood should be taken in any given case.

Deweese. Bleed as long as the blood will run from the arm, then apply a dozen leeches, and encourage the after bleeding by the application of moist warmth.

Marshall Hall. Set the patient in a chair with his face to the wall, and bleed him till he faints.

Deweese. I bleed till I reduce the arterial action, and then stop—sometimes “setting a student at the bedside, with directions to keep his finger on the pulse, and to open the vein again the moment he perceives a return of the symptoms that called for the first bleeding.”

Good. These symptoms will every now and then return, as long as there is any life in the system ; if, therefore, you bleed till no reaction takes place, according to Dr. D., the patient will soon “give up the ghost to the treatment instead of the disease.”

Salman. So zealous are the blood-suckers of

courage, that they daily sacrifice hundreds to its omnipotence, who fall, by its fury, like the children of old, who passed through the fire to Moloch, and that without any pity, left to commiserate the inexorable sufferings of their martyrs, or conscious of their crimes which may deter them in future from such villanies, the bare relation of which would make a man's ears tingle, which one cannot think of without grief, nor express without horror.

Lobstein. So far from blood-letting being beneficial, it is productive of the most serious and fatal effects—a cruel practice—a scourge to humanity. How many thousands of our fellow citizens are sent [by it] to an untimely grave! how many families are deprived of their amiable children, how many husbands of their lovely wives! and how many wives of their husbands! Without blood there is no heat, no motion in the system—in the blood is the life. He who takes blood from the patient, takes away not only an organ of life, but a part of life itself.

Good. I wish Dr. Rush could come back from the other world and tell us what he thinks now about bleeding. I believe it is agreed on all hands that he killed himself with it.

Robinson. More have been slain by the lancet alone since the days of Sydenham, than all that have perished by war, pestilence and famine.

Paracelsus. I see you are not likely to agree about bleeding. What say you to mercury?

Broussais. I go against it. Starving and cleanliness, and proper exercise, are better than any medicine, particularly poison.

Hooper and Barton. Hold there; the most virulent poisons are the best medicines.

Hanneman. I go for poisons; but the less the better. Say the ten millionth part of a grain!

Graham. I think three grains of calomel enough for any dose.

Yandell. Three grains! We use two hundred and fifty grains in Old Kentuck, and generally lose our patient at last!

Barton, of Louisiana. I shall be glad to see any thing else take the place of calomel, after witnessing as I have for the last sixteen years, its horrid effects in the wreck of constitutions, the destruction of teeth, gums, jaws faces, &c. Do search for something less mischievous, if it is only a tomato.

L. M. Whiting. Gentlemen, we might as well confess at once that "we know nothing about disease," and, as for the *materia medica*, "it is a perfect chaos." Indeed, who is there among us that would not rejoice to see that immense mass of matter that has been accumulating for four thousand years, and been chris-

tened Medical Science, swept away at once by the bosom of destruction.

"Were we to see a sportsman standing beside a grove, continually loading and discharging his piece without aim among the trees, and, at the same time, declaring his intention to be the destruction of a bird whose song he heard somewhere within it, we should without hesitation pronounce him not only non compos, but also a dangerous individual, fit only for a straight jacket or a madhouse. Yet such, if we mistake not, is very nearly the course pursued by many a routine practitioner [one who follows the directions of the Professors of books] in the treatment of morbid conditions of the body by medication. Shoot away! is the motto; perchance we may hit the mark; if not, the law is our safeguard, and we have the satisfaction of feeling that we have done the best we could. But the day is coming and now is, when the names of such men will be schathed by the lightnings of public indignation, and such will be the true deserts of those who, while the sun of science is shedding over the land its flood of living light, still prefer the darkness and persist in quackery."—*Boston Med. and Surg. Journal*, vol. 10, page 190.

From the Southern Botanic Journal.

SCARLET FEVER.

BY JAMES S. OLCOTT, A. M., T. P.

This fever, which does not exist in fact, but which owes its existence to the scarlet appearance of the skin, and the ignorance of the medical profession, which has ever led them, when they could not account for the cause, to invent a new disease, pervaded the most of our country in 1725, '56, '70, and '80. During its prevalence, the few who treated it with warming medicine, emollients and absorbents, were very successful, and lost but few of their patients; while those who made use of refrigerants, the lancet, blisters, and drastic purgatives, were baffled at every step, and followed in their career with almost universal destruction of life.—The few who escaped, did so from the lightness of the attack and the vigor of their constitutions, while of those who perished, some sank under the virulence of the disease, but the most were swept away by the absurd treatment of the medical faculty. The accounts of the day inform us that "the victims who perished, had their mouths, gums, and tongues corroded; the tonsils and palate consumed; their hearing destroyed, and the windpipe closed; their blisters mortified, and with their flesh falling from their bones, were prematurely prepared for the pollution of the grave." Not more than a dozen of

the faculty would change their mode of practice, but continued to bleed, blister, purge, and kill. Those that did, were denounced and reviled by the profession! they had, however, the satisfaction of doing good, in saving the life of almost every individual to whom they were called to prescribe, at an early stage of the disease.

As this is a disease of no ordinary magnitude, and one to which we are every season exposed, we shall first describe its nature; the philosophy and benevolence of the Thomsonian practice in regard to its cure; and the quackery and evil of the mineral. We shall speak of it as a specific disease, although it is evidently, and as we shall clearly show, only a peculiar aspect of disease, resulting from appearance, and a few pre-determining causes.

The scarlet fever is originated by the sudden changes of the atmosphere from cold to warm. The external heat being suddenly raised, a flaccidity, weakness, and morbid inaction takes place in the skin, and those parts of the mouth and throat which are exposed to the natural warmth of the weather. The secretories and excretories become deranged. Inflammation follows, giving to the skin its livid and versicolored appearance; while the morbid matter should be thrown off by the skin from the system, remaining in it, produces all the symptoms of sickness, languor, and anxiety, so characteristic of such an attack. This inflammation soon assumes the appearance of sores and ulcers. The matter formed is highly poisonous and corrosive: corrosive if confined in the cavities of the throat, and poisonous if received in the stomach. It extends to the lungs themselves, so that the very seat of life is at once assailed. That we have not mistaken the cause and nature of the disease, is evident from the fact that its prevalence has ever followed sudden changes of temperature, as well as from the consideration that it is accompanied by effects, which, as symptoms, pre-suppose such derangements as we have already specified.

This being the case, the symptoms would be chilliness, sickness of the stomach, anxiety of mind, dryness of the skin, lividity of the surface, varying with the degree of partial inflammation, ulceration of the throat, nausea, accompanied with chills, languor, stupor, and mortification. What is done must be done quickly—a few hours, if the attack be violent, and the patient expires.

The Thomsonian practice would, in the true spirit of philosophy and benevolence, thus administer to the patient. Warming medicines to raise the internal heat and excite the vital energies; open the pores of the skin by vapor, to do away its contraction and dryness, and to let

the confined matter escape; administer the lobelia emetic, to throw from the stomach the poisonous mucus which has been for days previously rapidly collecting, and by occasionally exhibiting the same, cleanse the system; and as the patient can relish, administer emollient, sudorific drinks, with a light but nourishing diet. This is the process. This is what reason, experience and common sense demand. This is what nature requires. It affords relief, where relief is possible, and effects a cure. Of those who, in 1833, when this so raged in our country, were thus treated, almost all recovered. It was a plan, in miniature, similar to this, that proved successful in 1725, '56, '70, and '84. The reasonableness of the process appears from the fact, that at every step, an effect is produced towards relieving nature, and counteracting all those tendencies which, as antecedents, as correlatives, or as consequents, are so destructive to life.

The mineral practice is the reverse of this. The child, the young person, the feeble, (for such are the most liable to become the subjects of the epidemic,) is attacked, and the physician is immediately held in requisition. He comes in haste, examines the pulse, skin, tongue and throat of the individual, and pronounces it to be Scarlet Fever. All is terror and alarm. "Do, dear doctor, save, if you can, my child—my husband—wife—parent!" "We will do what we can." As it is an inflammatory disease, out comes the lancet, and a copious bleeding is sure to follow; a cathartic is administered; blisters applied to the throat and breast; and, after prescribing warm teas, with the requisition that the patient be not disturbed, but kept quiet, he retires to return in the morning, or when again sent for.

Now, what has he done? All that he could to assist the disease and overcome nature. The diminution of the volume of the blood, makes the skin more flaccid and dry; produces languor and inactivity in the vital system; causes weakness and a febrile affection, and closes more effectually the pores of the skin, leaving the matter which should be thrown off immediately, to press upon the vitals, by clogging all the avenues of health and life. The drastic purge, being in itself a narcotic, aids in producing the same effect, and only opens by violence the bowels, while it closes the millions of pores in the skin; the blisters applied, if they take effect, are only partial in their operation, and inevitably hazard a premature mortification. And this is medicinal! This is the divine Esculapian art! This is the system, which for centuries, has thus been combatting disease, and wrestling with death! Rather say, this is the misguided practice of a profession never re-

formed, which comes down to us with all the flummery of monkish superstition, but which is destined soon to see and deplore its errors; and as it has, at times, boasted of distinguished individuals, shall, as we trust, soon be enabled to boast of a distinguished practice.

When we regard the practice of medicine, disconnected with the truth that every science has been slowly perfected, and recollect that it is not two centuries since the most enlightened jurists condemned to death hundreds for witchcraft, nor as long as that, since thousands suffered martyrdom under the christian religion; that men are always unwilling to enter upon any thing which in the least derogates from their imaginary honor, or diminishes their chance of gain; that it is extremely hazardous for any individual to enter upon a reform to which his profession is averse; we are apt to be astonished at the medical profession, and to be filled with indignation and horror, as we see them sporting with life; adhering to the teachings of men, instead of yielding to the simple teachings of nature and common sense, and rejecting the simple means which has, in thousands of instances, proved efficacious, while they adhere to a complex and doubtful process, under which thousands and millions perish.

But why are we disenthralled? How comes it to pass that we are convinced of the necessity of medical reform, and that it is possible? Why do we consult nature, and pursue a simple plan? Why do so many come forth from the mineral, and rank themselves on the Thomsonian side? We answer, because we have reached the period of medical reform; our attention has been directed to the light and truth; to the all-important subject; we have put into our hands a perfect system which enables us to know and do; we feel as all destined to engage in a work which calls for personal sacrifice too,—the deep workings of a heavenly benevolence; and finally, God himself wills that the work shall be effected. A long struggle, however, lies before us. The medical profession will not commence, nor yield to reform, until compelled by necessity. Every inch of ground must be fought for, to be won. We shall have again and again to sound the alarm, exhibit the danger, depict the evil, and present the remedy, until the people, under the stern and imperious motive of self-interest and self-redemption, achieve the object. And will they rest satisfied under the exhibition of a far-spreading desolation? Can any reflecting man be willing that the scarlet fever should be thus treated? Shall a century pass before this absurd and Vandal practice is exploded, and the system of Dr. Thomson, safe, simple, and salutary, be received? We trust not. It is an age of inquiry.

It is emphatically an age of intellectual acumen. It is an age of opinion; and such is the excitement and susceptibility of the common mind, that truth exhibited and enforced, will prevail. It will receive attention, and the effect follow. That the people may perceive the truth more clearly, we will, before we conclude, place the mineral and the Thomsonian practice in regard to scarlatina, in contrast.

THE MINERAL.—Bleed copiously, purge with mercury, and blister the region of the throat and sternum.

Result. Faintings, chills, languor, anxiety and distress,—all the body being filled with disease,—ulceration of the mouth, throat and lungs,—heart-sickness, deafness, mortification of the lungs, throat and bowels,—death. Relatives are afraid to attend the living, or to perform the last sad offices for the dead.

We make use of minerals dug from the earth; they are more convenient and active,—we bleed to prevent inflammation and mortification,—we blister to change the seat of the disease,—we give the drastic purge to cleanse the system at once.

We believe the scarlet fever contagious, because individuals of the same family have had it one after another.

THE THOMSONIAN.—Give warm teas, cleanse the stomach with an emetic, and by all means promote a copious perspiration; give frequent injections; gargle the throat.

Result. General relief with the operation of the emetic and vapor bath,—a return of healthful feelings—the lungs relieved, throat cleansed, and patient cured. Friends and relatives, although exposed to an epidemic every where prevalent, since it arises from sudden changes of atmosphere, apprehend no special danger in attending the sick.

We make use of vegetables, given for the use of man, less convenient and virulent, but perfectly harmless and far more salutary,—we do not bleed, but relieve the whole system, and sufficiently diminish the volume of the blood, by perspiration,—we do not blister, because it is partial, and in this case extremely dangerous, but by an emetic remove the obstruction which causes the disease, since our lobelia acts upon every part of the human system with a disease-dispelling influence,—we do not give the drastic purge, because it deranges all the viscera, but the injection, which becomes a sufficiently powerful excitant, with the emetic, to cleanse the alimentary canal.

We believe it not contagious, because one individual of a dozen has had it, and the rest escaped.

OBSERVATIONS. 1. It is time for the people who have been thinking on law, divinity and

civil polity, to turn their attention to medicine. Here is something tangible, and a subject concerning which all may become duly informed, and in which all may have deep interest.

2. As no body of men ever did or will reform themselves, the reform to which we allude must be commenced, carried on, and perfected by the people; and the sooner it is commenced, the better.

3. What a vast difference between that system which burthens, oppresses, and finally sinks the body amid billows of agony, and that which relieves and finally rescues from sickness, death, and the grave!

4. In this case, the subject especially commends itself to parents, and more especially to mothers. Infancy and childhood are ever exposed. Can you remain uninterested, undecided?

Lastly, this is a palpable case, and one calculated to arouse the attention and solicitude of all. Is it—can it be a matter of indifference to any, in what manner physicians believe, act, and prescribe? Let the salutary oversight of an intelligent people rest upon this profession, and purify it from its ten thousand absurd and life destroying practices. Here we have presented but a solitary point, and thrown upon it but a few rays of light, and lo! the thousands who perished in 1725, '56, '70, and '84, of scarlet fever, are seen falling under the hands of those who should have saved! Thousands of summits, dark as midnight, rise around us. Let there be light poured upon them. The time has come,—and it shall be effected.

SENSES OF FEELING AND TOUCH.

All the parts of our surface are formed in such a manner as to receive the contact of exterior bodies; but one of them is particularly organized in order to instruct us of their general qualities; it is the instrument of an active feeling, or what is called touching.

1. *Organs of feeling or tact, and of touching.*—The skin is a membrane which forms a general envelope, and which is continued into the internal organs on the margin of the natural openings; it adheres to the parts which it covers, generally, in a loose manner; however, in some parts the cellular tissue, which unites it to the deeper seated parts, possesses an extreme density; it is sometimes ligamentous; finally, in other places the skin is lined with a muscular layer which communicates motion to it. The exterior surface of this membrane is smooth: it presents, 1, wrinkles, 2, small papillary ridges, 3, the hair, 4, small openings which are the orifices of its follicles.

In the organization of the skin we meet with, when examined from within, outwards, 1, the

cutis, or fibro-cellular layer, which imparts to it thickness and solidity, in which are ramified the sanguineous and lymphatic vessels and the nerves, to reach afterwards to its surface where they form that which is by Malpighi called the papillary bodies, or the sanguineous buds of Gautier; then we have a second membrane, which results from the union of the nervous extremities and the vessels, and the surface of which offers a multitude of small papillary erectile projections; it is covered over by a layer, to which Malpighi has given the name of mucous body; very thin over the summit of the papilli, much thicker in their intervals, they are neither vascular nor nervous; it is a kind of humid varnish which contains the pigmentum of the skin. Its existence was denied by Bichat, Gordon, Chaussier, &c.; other anatomists, on the contrary, consider this membrane, which is in itself very thin, composed of several layers in close contact; Gautier, for example, demonstrates three of them; one white, deep seated; one colored, and a third white, superficial. 2. Finally, the epidermis is the most external layer of the skin; it is an inorganic membrane, which, according to some anatomists, is the product of the coagulation of an albuminous juice; according to others, it is formed by scales lapping over each other; according to M. de Blainville, it is a horny matter, secreted on the surface of the skin. Lastly, we also meet with, in the organization of the skin, sebaceous follicles, the hairs, the description of which would be out of place here.

The mucous membranes are, like the skin, the seat of tactile impressions; however, their organization is the same, but a layer of mucus, called epichorion, is commonly substituted for the epidermis.

The hand is the organ of touch, situated at the extremity of a very moveable lever, it unites in its structure a very great sensibility to an astonishing mobility; its frame is formed by 27 bones, arranged into three flexible parts playing on each other, the carpus or wrist, the metacarpus, which forms the hollow of the hand, and finally, the fingers, which are five in number, in which we distinguish several flexions. A multitude of muscles are destined to give to all those parts general or particular movements very multiplied. Finally, a very delicate skin, and closely united to the subjacent parts, covers the hand; the nervous papillæ are very much developed here, particularly at the extremity of the fingers, where they are supported by a spongy tissue, which some physiologists consider to be erectile; the nails, situated behind, are destined to support the soft part of the finger.

2. *Mechanism of feeling and of touch.*—The mechanism of the sense of feeling is very sim-

ple; the skin, which is its organ, is continually exposed to the contact of exterior bodies, consequently, it must always produce impressions. Feeling or tact occurs without our being able to detect the least change, the least action in the organ which is its instrument; of course we do not know precisely in what it consists; every thing tends to prove that the papillæ are the seat of the impression, and that the epidermis moderates its action: Tact enables us to appreciate weight, consistency, movement, extent, and above all, the temperature of bodies. In effect, it is tact only which causes to experience the sensations of heat and cold; but the judgment which we make of these two qualities of bodies is not in just proportion, as we might be led to think, with the quantity of caloric that they yield to or take away from us, because we always compare their temperature to that of the medium in which we live, and to which our body is habituated; so that a body, for example, seems to us warm, because its temperature is higher than that of the atmosphere, although it is below ours. The mucous membranes are also the seat of tactile impression, but only at their origin; the exquisite sensibility of the lips, is well known.

Touch, is nothing else than active feeling, or which is exercised by a special organ, organized in such a manner as to be able to run over the surface of bodies and to adapt itself to their form. We have already remarked, that in the hand we find united all the circumstances the most advantageous for this function. In every age philosophers have admired its organization; they have even ascribed to it the superiority of man over all other animals: Galen used to say, it is the instrument of instruments. As to the mechanism of touch, it is the same as that of feeling, the impression is developed in the same manner, but it is more perfect, because the contact itself is more perfect.

Candillac and Buffon give to the sense of touch a great pre-eminence over the others; some philosophers, because of its precision, give to it the name of geometric sense; others call it the regulator of the senses, &c.; but in reality it possesses no superiority over the others, as was clearly demonstrated by M. Destutt Tracy. We cannot deny that it serves materially the intelligence, but this is also the case with the other senses. Touch is capable of an astonishing degree of perfection by practice; we have known blind persons to execute with their fingers some of the nicest works.

There are two peculiar sensations that I shall mention here, connected with the history of touch, because they are mostly owing to the contact of a foreign body with the skin, or the origin of the mucous membrane; one is *itching*,

the other is *tickling*. The former, it is true, may be owing to an internal cause, but more frequently it is induced by the same conditions as the tact or touch, they both require a slight contact and are exercised unexpectedly.—[Hutten's Physiology of Man.

EVILS OF INACTIVITY.

A state of permanent contraction of the muscular system is both unnatural and impossible; and, accordingly, the most fatiguing muscular employment to which a man can be subjected, is that of remaining immovable in any given attitude. To an unreflecting person it may seem a very easy and pleasant service to stand for half a day in the attitude of an Apollo or a gladiator, as a model to a statuary; but, on trying it, he will find, to his astonishment, that stone-breaking or the tread-mill are pastimes in comparison: in the one case, the muscles which preserve the attitude are kept incessantly on the strain; while in the other, they enjoy that play and variety of motion for which they were destined by nature. We may easily put the fact to the test, by attempting to hold the arm extended at right angles to the body for the short space of ten minutes. He whose muscles, if indeed capable of the exertion, do not feel sore with fatigue at the end of that time, may think himself peculiarly fortunate in being blessed with a powerful constitution.

The principle just stated explains very obviously the weariness, debility, and injury to health which invariably follow forced confinement to one position, or to one limited variety of movement, as is often witnessed in the education of young females. Alternate contraction and relaxation, or, in other words, exercise of the muscles which support the trunk of the body, are the only means which, according to the Creator's laws, are conducive to muscular development, and by which bodily strength and vigor can be secured. Instead of promoting such exercise, however, the prevailing system of female education places the muscles of the trunk, in particular, under the worst possible circumstances, and renders their exercise nearly impossible. Left to its own weight, the body would fall to the ground, in obedience to the ordinary law of gravitation: in sitting and standing, therefore, as well as in walking, the position is preserved only by active muscular exertion. But if we confine ourselves to one attitude, such as that of sitting erect upon a chair—or, what is still worse, on benches without backs, as is the common practice in schools,—it is obvious that we place the muscles which support the spine and trunk in the very disadvantageous position of permanent instead of alternate con-

traction ; which we have seen to be in reality more fatiguing and debilitating to them than severe labor. Girls thus restrained daily for many successive hours, invariably suffer—being deprived of the sports and exercise after school-hours which strengthen the muscles of boys, and enable them to withstand the oppression. The muscles being thus enfeebled, they either lean over insensibly to one side, and thus contract curvature of the spine ; or, their weakness being perceived, they are forthwith cased in stiffer and stronger stays—that support being sought for in steel and whalebone, which Nature intended they should obtain from the bones and muscles of their own bodies. The patient, finding the maintenance of an erect carriage (the grand object for which all the suffering is inflicted) thus rendered more easy, at first welcomes the stays, and, like her teacher, fancies them highly useful. Speedily, however, their effects show them to be the reverse of beneficial. The same want of varied motion which was the prime cause of the muscular weakness, is still further aggravated by the tight pressure of the stays interrupting the play of the muscles, and rendering them in a few months more powerless than ever. In spite, however, of the weariness and mischief which result from it, the same system is persevered in ; and, during the short time allotted to that nominal exercise, the formal walk, the body is left almost as motionless as before, and only the legs are called into activity. The natural consequences of this treatment are, debility of the body, curvature of the spine, impaired digestion, and, from the diminished tone of the animal and vital functions, general ill health :—and yet, while we thus set nature and her laws at defiance, we presume to express surprise at the prevalence of female deformity and disease !

It would be easy, were it required, to prove that the picture here drawn, is not over-charged. A single instance, from a note appended by Dr. Forbes to an excellent treatise on "Physical Education," by Dr. Barlow, of Bath, (Eng.), will suffice. After copying the programme of a boarding-school for young ladies, which exhibits only one hour's exercise, consisting of a walk, arm in arm, on the high road, and that only when the weather is fine at the particular hour allotted to it, in contrast with nine hours at school or tasks, and three and a half at optional studies or works,—Dr. Forbes adds :—"That the practical results of such an astounding regimen are by no means overdrawn in the preceding pages, is sufficiently evinced by the following fact, a fact which, we will venture to say, may be verified by inspection of thousands of boarding-schools in this country. We lately visited in a large town a boarding-school con-

taining forty girls ; and we learned, on a close and accurate inquiry, that there was not one of the girls who had been at the school two years, (and the majority had been as long,) that was not more or less crooked ! We can assert, on the same authority of personal observation, and on an extensive scale, that scarcely a single girl (more especially of the middle classes) that has been at a boarding-school for two or three years, returns home with unimpaired health ; and for the truth of the assertion we may appeal to every candid father, whose daughters have been placed in this situation."

Dr. Barlow justly remarks, that the superintendents of such schools cannot generally be blamed for indifference about the welfare of their pupils ; that most of them are extremely anxious to do their utmost to improve those under their charge ; and that it is ignorance alone which misleads them as to the proper means : he might have adverted also to the ignorance of parents, who insist on so many hours a day being dedicated to the study of accomplishments for which their children have neither taste, capacity, nor use. From similar ignorance, the young girls in a public hospital in this country used to be shut up in the hall and school-room during play-hours, from November to March, and no romping or noise, or in other words, no real play, relaxation, or exercise, allowed ; and in 1830-31, from fear of typhus fever, they were seldom, if ever, out of doors, except at church, from November to April—than which a more efficient method of infringing all the laws of health, could scarcely have been devised. Here, too, the object was unquestionably benevolent, but the method was radically bad ; and, in consequence, a great deal of sickness prevailed.

The sedentary and unvaried occupations which follow each other for hours in succession in many of our schools, have also been the cause of needless suffering to thousands ; and it is high time that a sound physiology should step in to root out all such erroneous and hurtful practices. Taken in connection with the long confinement, the custom of causing the young to sit on benches without any support to the back, and without any variety of motion, cannot be too soon exploded. If the muscles of the spine were strengthened by the exercise which they require, but which is so generally denied,—and if the school employments were varied or interrupted at reasonable intervals, to admit of change of position and of motion,—nothing could be better adapted for giving an easy and erect carriage than seats without backs, because the play of the muscles necessary for preserving the erect position would give them activity and vigor ; and, accordingly, the want is scarcely, if at all, felt in infant schools, for

the very reason that such variety of motion is, in them, carefully provided for. But it is a gross misconception to suppose that the same good result will follow the absence of support, when the muscles are weakened by constant straining and want of play. The incessant and fidgety restless observable after the second or third hour of common school confinement, shows the earnest call of nature for a little wholesome exercise; and the quiet that ensues when it is granted, indicates clearly enough that the restlessness springs even more from bodily than from mental weariness. It is, in fact, a degree of what we all feel when kept long standing on our feet, or sitting at a desk. We become wearied and uneasy from the continued strain on the same muscles, and feel at once relieved by a walk, a drive, or any change whatever. The same principle explains the fatigue so often complained of, as experienced in "shopping," or in an exhibition-room. We saunter about till the muscles become sore from the fatigue of being always in the same attitude, and we are refreshed by a walk or a dance, or any thing which alters the position. The same languor of the muscles is felt after witnessing a pantomime, or other continuous spectacle, by which we are induced to keep the neck for a long time in a constrained and unvaried position.

Instead, therefore, of so many successive hours being devoted to study and to books, the employments of the young ought to be varied and interrupted by proper intervals of cheerful and exhilarating exercise, such as is derived from games of dexterity, which require the co-operation and society of companions. This is infinitely preferable to the solemn processions which are so often substituted for exercise, and which are hurtful, inasmuch as they delude parents and teachers into the notion that they constitute in reality that which they only counterfeit and supercede. The playful gambolling and varied movements which are so characteristic of the young of all animals, man not excepted, and which are at once so pleasing and so beneficial, show, that to render it beneficial in its fullest extent, nature requires amusement and sprightliness of mind to be combined with, and be the source of, muscular exercise; and that, when deprived of this healthful condition, it is a mere evasion of her law, and is not followed by a tithe of the advantages resulting from its real fulfilment. The buoyancy of spirit and comparative independence enjoyed by boys when out of school, prevent them suffering so much from this cause as girls; but the injury inflicted on both, is the more unpardonable, on account of the ease with which it might be entirely avoided.—[Andrew Combe.]

ATTENTION TO CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE.

It is a matter of serious regret that no more attention is paid to the language of little children, than is paid by those who have the early charge of them in our country; and that parents and nurses so generally teach children the numerous words which they learn in their first ten years, in such miserable, broken, half-spoken bad English. The mother and father, talk with their children in their little babe-pronunciations, sounds of half-spoken words not only, but a total disregard of proper construction of sentences, as well as the use of numerous words which have no existence but in vulgar and improper English. Here then in childhood is badly learned what it will in after life take years to unlearn, and wholly from an unpardonable neglect in parents and early tutors. It is a proper inquiry, must it always be so? This may be answered by another inquiry, has it always been thus? Certainly not. It was not so among the ancient Lacademonians. The mothers took a special care to have the children speak correctly, and at an early age they were admitted to the pure and chaste conversation at the public tables, where sat the prince and men of state.—It was not so among the ancient Greeks and Romans. The Roman matrons bestowed the earliest care, "even in infancy," to form the manners and language of their children correctly. They were peculiarly careful that they should not receive their earliest impressions and their first language from slaves or barbarians, and took great delight in educating themselves in all the elegance of diction that characterizes their language. This course was commendable, and the result sufficient to compensate all the pains taken. Perhaps there are none of our readers but have experienced that it has been very difficult to rid themselves of bad words and wrong pronunciations which they have learned in the nursery. It takes us a long while by the use of grammars to obtain so good a style of conversation, as we should else have grown up in without the study of grammar, had our parents and friends paid the proper attention to the language of children. The French, the English—we are behind all nations in this article; and we submit it to parents, whether there ought not to be an immediate improvement.—[Morning Star.]

GOOD NEWS FOR THE WHALE.—It is said that a new material has been discovered in England for burning in the various kinds of lamps. It is called the "ætherial oleine" and can be purchased at two-thirds the price of the finest sperm oil,—and will burn twenty-four hours without clogging the lamp, or requiring trimming.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels, and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, APRIL 1, 1841.

SPECIFICS.

Among the many inventions which have been brought to an almost *perfect* state, there are none, we believe, more fruitful of mischief and evil than the humbug invention of specifics, sent forth to the world in the form of cures for coughs and pulmonary complaints. These articles, got up and manufactured by people whose business not being so lucrative as their extravagance demands, they hit upon these methods to drain from the sick and despairing the means which should be spared to render a few months of their wasting life free from care, or at least free from want. As the drowning man will catch at a straw, so will the sick seize upon every nostrum that is presented to his attention, with the hope of relief. But alas! for the credulity of mankind—the victim of disease finds at last that the hopes held out to him by the *quack* advertisements are delusive and vain, and that in trusting to the statement made by the bribed certifier, he has at least found no relief, and perhaps lost the chance of regaining health under good medicines and proper treatment.

The different publications of our country are in a great measure supported by the manufacturers of these base compounds, by advertising. Many of the editors lend their aid in the way of puffing into notice medicines, the only value which they themselves know the articles to possess, being that of supporting their paper: they help keep that alive, if they kill all else. In numerous instances the sale of the article is enhanced by the certificates of names that never had a person to claim them. And again, physicians will come forward and give their certificates of the efficacy of such and such articles in curing different complaints.

We ask our readers to look at these things with a candid mind. Would physicians recommend

these medicines if they knew that they possessed the virtue that is ascribed to them? No. Man is a selfish being, and he is apt to bend that way which will most promote his own interest and advance his gains. Then do you think that physicians would use their influence to promote the sale of articles, which, if what they said of them were true, would have a tendency to destroy their own practice, and leave them dependent on their labor for support? No!

It is evident that the majority of these nostrums are of no benefit to the invalid, if they are not injurious. That they create disease instead of curing it, is evident; at least we are justified in so believing, when we find them endorsed with the certificates of physicians, who must know that the principal ingredients of which they are composed are poisons.

Beware of these imposition; look well into your own resources, and gather from your fields and gardens the herbs and roots which nature has so plentifully bestrewed around you, and study their nature, and apply them to your wants; leave the man of physic and nostrums to administer to his own, the articles he intended for you. Teach him that in counting the money he should draw from your purse by his specifics, he has counted without running up the cost; and in his own losses, he will reap a harvest of disappointed anticipations.

Did apothecaries for a moment believe that these articles were "certain cures," would they vend them from their shops? No. For were such the fact, they would soon be compelled to shut up shop—"disease would be disarmed, and practising physicians remain unemployed and useless."

That the object is gain only, is so plain that any person of common sense can discern it at a glance. Were it a fortune-hunting business only, it would be hardly worthy of notice; but when we feel confident that it is a great medium of sporting with the lives and health of the human family, we deem it our duty to speak against it. It is an alarming fact, says a writer on the medical nostrums of the day, that disease and mortality have increased in the exact ratio of a rapidly increasing and far-spreading mineral profession. And we are firm in the belief that many of the physicians and apothecaries and nostrum-venders of the present time, are guilty of a combination; using all their arts and wits to bring about disease and sickness, that thereby they may elevate themselves upon the ruin or misery of those who place confidence in them.

We would now, as in time past, warn our read

ers against such men, and advise that they study their own natures and learn to apply the means which are within their power, for relief when sick. Learn to be your own physician, and when your friends and family are stricken down with disease, depend on yourselves as physicians and nurses; keep the doctor and apothecary at a distance, and you will have the satisfaction of seeing the sick speedily restored to health, with no long bills of the craft as a pull back on you. Your children will be spared to you with sound constitutions and robust frames, and live to bless and honor you in your decline of life.

CONSUMPTION.

'This complaint,' says Doct. Thomson, 'is generally caused by some acute disorder not being removed, and the patient being run down by the fashionable practice.' Were we to make up our mind from the following statistics, which we copy from an exchange paper, we should come to the conclusion, that doctors are the principal cause. For it seems that those who have but little property with which to feed these fashionable drones, know but little of the malady; while among those classes of society which are more favorably situated the disease is very fatal. "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure," is a good maxim, and will apply well in this case; therefore, we advise our friends to look well to the prevention of consumption; that is, keep the poison dealers, the blood-letters and the knights of the blister-plaster at a distance when you are indisposed, and use such simple remedies as you know are cleansing and will promote perspiration and free circulation, and you never need fear the consumption.

STATISTICS OF CONSUMPTION.—In Europe and America this disease is very fatal: in Asia and Africa rare. Of the different countries of Europe:—In Turkey, rare; in Greece and Italy, common; in the Mediterranean common, but varying in the different islands and coasts—being in Malta and Sicily common, in Gibraltar rare; in Spain and Portugal rare; in Russia rare, especially among the peasantry; in Lapland consumption is extremely rare. 'Few or none of the Danes,' observes Lord Molesworth, 'are troubled with coughs, catarrhs, or consumptions, or such like disorders of the lungs.' In Sweden it is also rare; in Germany and Prussia, common; in Austria and France, very common: and most fatal in Great Britain and Holland.

"Gentle exercise after eating promotes digestion more than indolent inactivity or rest. Violent exercise with a full stomach, is injurious."

CURE FOR CANCER.—We have just heard of a most simple and efficacious cure for cancer. A well known gentleman of Chestnut st., has for a year or two past had a cancer coming under the lip, and used every precautionary means to eradicate or destroy it, in vain; it had recently extended over a part of his cheek, chin, &c., when a friend in Europe hearing of his distressing situation, wrote him directions to dissolve a quantity of salt in best French brandy, and bathe the parts affected with it as strong as he could bear it; he did so a few times, and to his unspeakable joy, found its ravages entirely arrested, and is getting well rapidly.—[Ex. paper.]

The above article shows that simple remedies often effect cures where science has been tried in vain. We have heard of a cancer being cured by the simple application of the bruised leaves of *skunk cabbage*, laid on the affected part. The cancer had become an eating sore, and the individual could bear no dressing on it, but being situated on the right cheek, the sufferer was much annoyed by flies. One day, having lost all patience, he went into the field and on coming to some skunk cabbage he picked a leaf of it, and having bruised it with a stone to make it soft, placed it on the sore, and he soon felt relief of the burning, itching sensation, which had tormented him for some time. This induced him to continue the application, by which means the sore gradually healed and got well. Although the above two articles have performed the cures mentioned, in both instances, it seems, they were sores—had began to run or spread: they might not effect a cure where there is only a hard bunch formed. In all cases where a cancer is forming, means should be used to destroy it soon as possible; and for that purpose we would refer the reader to Dr. Thomson's New Guide to Health. Beware of the many cancer plasters, which are made of poisonous ingredients—arsenic being frequently the principal article of which they are composed: such substances are absorbed by the system, and if seated on the lungs, cause the sufferer to make his exit by a slow consumption. Beware then, of quackery—we say, beware of poisons!

ANTIPATHIES.

I hate long stories and short ears of corn,
A costly farm-house and a shabby barn;
More curs than pigs, no books, but many guns,
Corned toes, tight boots, old debts, and paper duns.

I hate tight lacing and loose conversation,
Abundant gab, and little information;
The fool who sings in bed and snores in meeting,
Who laughs while talking and who talks while eating.

These things I hate, yet more I hate to see,
The printer cheated of his hard earned fee.

☞ We once heard of a man and his servant who made a bet as to which of them would tell the biggest lie. The man commenced by saying that the night before he “drove a spike into moon!” His servant replied, “No doubt of it, for I was standing behind the moon at the time, and clinched the spike when it came through.” This story, in our mind, is about as reasonable as the two following, and we hardly know which of them to set down as the biggest lie. At any rate, we think both writers deserve “*new hats*,” for they cannot be beat, either as regards falsehood or foolishness.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE.

A surgical operation was performed last week by Dr. Lewis L. Miller, upon a lady in Massachusetts, which consisted in removing from the body a perfect and dead child, which weighed 4 pounds and 6 ounces! She had carried the dead burden more than six years, and in the mean time has given birth to three full grown children, the last of which is fourteen months old. She sustained the operation well, and has a very fair prospect of recovery.—[Providence Journal.

That is a pretty tough story, yet not quite so extraordinary as one detailed to us by a correspondent, who writes from a town in the interior. We let him speak for himself. He says:—

“A woman in this place had six children, and then, being very poor, was sent to the alms-house, where she remained eight years. A few days since, she became sick, and was found to be ‘*en-ciente*.’ After considerable suffering, she was delivered by one of our most skilful physicians of a male child, whose teeth were all develope, and whose whiskers and mustaches might be seen without the aid of glasses. The face was wrinkled, and expressive of advanced age. From all the circumstances, the learned physician gave it as his opinion that the child must have been from *fifteen* to *twenty* years of age, and had been enclosed in a sack in the womb, even before the birth of the first of the six before mentioned. The unexpected visitant to this nether world was born dead, but the poor mother is as yet doing well.”—[Ex. paper.

☞ NOTICE.—Those persons who have received three or four numbers of the present volume of our paper, will bear in mind that they are responsible for the whole volume. We shall stop no more papers, until the subscriber pays what he already owes. This notice is given on account of papers being returned by subscribers, who have received and kept several numbers of the volume, and now request it discontinued. We can’t do it till you pay up. Our first number contained our terms; and had you returned that paper, our acquaintance would have ceased; but as you did not, we shall stick to you till November, “like a chestnut burr to a sheep’s back.”

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS’ EXPERIENCE OF A THOMSONIAN.—No. VII.

A young man in New York, of the name of Chapin, (formerly of Boston,) had been under a regular course of mineral treatment for consumption, from March to November, 1837; at which time he was pronounced incurable by his physician. We boarded at the same house, and, as has been my invariable custom in all cases of sickness which have come under my immediate notice since first made acquainted with Thomsonism, I used my utmost endeavors to persuade him to try the Thomsonian medicines; but the favorable impressions made upon him by my remarks from day to day, as I saw him a few minutes only at a time, were counteracted by some of his fellow boarders who were bitterly opposed to a system which they knew nothing of, save through the bug-bear stories of those who were as ignorant of its real merits as themselves. He was mostly afraid of the lobelia, as his doctor had informed him, some time previous to this, that, although his stomach was almost wholly clogged up, he did not dare give an emetic, for fear it would re-produce bleeding of the lungs—which had already occurred to some extent two or three times during his sickness.

I told him he might rest assured that a lobelia emetic would not strain him in the least—that if he would go to the Infirmary, I would go with him and remain while he took the first course. But he would not consent, being afraid they might doctor him merely for sake of the pay, without any expectation of benefitting him. At length he said he was satisfied that die he must, and that speedily, in his present condition, and if I would give him a course of medicine at the house, he would prefer it to going among strangers. My only hesitation was concerning a proper plan for steaming him; but upon looking round, I found an old straw-bottom chair which would answer my purpose, so I told him if he would take spiced-bitters and composition until the next Sunday, being a week, I would then attend to him. He did so. The doctor had expressed his opinion that he could not possibly live through the winter; and the inmates of the house were certain he could not live more than a month. I had my own doubts whether he lived till spring, but was certain the Thomsonian treatment would not shorten his days, and there was a possibility of his recovering: at any rate, I believed the medicines would make him more comfortable; and that was the amount of the encouragement I gave him.

Accordingly, the next Sunday morning, I commenced operations. By seating him in the open-bottomed chair, and covering him with a large quilt, I was enabled to give him a thorough steaming by means of hot stones placed in a pan of vinegar and water and put under the chair. I steamed him about 15 minutes, and he felt better and stronger under the operation. The matter exuded by the steam was so viscous that it would string out two feet in length, looking like the spider's web, and smelling very offensive.

I administered, at intervals of 15 minutes, three tea-spoonfuls of green lobelia before vomiting was produced. He then vomited freely twice—after which he felt perfectly easy, excepting a little nausea at times, for about an hour; and seemed to think he should not vomit again. But in a few minutes he began to complain of sickness and distress, very soon vomited again, and again—sickness and distress continued now without any cessation, and very soon he commenced the cry, so familiar to the ears of every one accustomed to witnessing the effects of lobelia upon patients who have long been under the mineral treatment, of “Oh, I shall die.” For about an hour he continued in this way, vomiting every few minutes, and moaning out this solemn expression. I made him drink often of milk-porridge—which he thought very strange medicine for a dying man, as he afterwards told me. After an hour or so of crying “Oh, I shall die,” he ceased speaking altogether, and lay for the space of two hours, sobbing like a child after having been whipped. During the first hour that he thus remained, he vomited frequently, but without seeming to be sensible of it, as he did not attempt to assist himself in the least. I had to stand by him constantly, and by main force lift his head over the bowl, and back again to the pillow, or he would vomit just as he lay, or lay just as he vomited. He continued his sobbing for an hour after vomiting subsided, and then dropped into a quiet sleep for the same length of time. When he awoke he turned over in bed as quick as I could have done, looked up bright, and asked how long he had been asleep. To my inquiry as to how he did, he replied he felt like getting up to be dressed: and in an hour from that time he went down stairs, (3 o'clock,) took tea and toast with a good relish, had a good night's rest, and next day felt very much improved.

He continued to take composition and bitters for a week, at the expiration of which time he was so much better that he concluded to take passage for Mobile, (contrary to my advice, as I considered the Thomsonian treatment would be better for

him than warm weather without it,) which he did in a few days. He wrote as soon as he arrived there, stating that before half of their passage was completed, he was well as ever he was in his life. In a few weeks we again heard that he was lying at the point of death with the yellow fever. The next news was a letter from himself, bringing the welcome intelligence of his restoration to sound health. I have since heard that he died the subsequent spring, on his passage from Mobile to the West Indies; but have never heard any particulars concerning his death.

REMARKS.—When this patient was lying in the state above described, under the influence of lobelia, what would have been the natural result had a Dr. *Cheeseman* been called in,—as in the case of Tiberius G. French,—and, pompously exclaiming “You are killing the patient with heat,” ordered the fire put out, doors and windows opened, and then stripped the patient to his naked skin, for the purpose of examining his abdomen? The result would have been almost immediate death, as in French's case—and Thomsonism would have been convicted of the *murder*!

Consumptive patients must not consider the above a common case, and expect to be cured by one course of medicine—for generally speaking, unceasing perseverance for weeks, perhaps months, would be required, where the symptoms were not so dangerous, apparently, as in this case. But never despair until you have given the Thomsonian system a *thorough* trial.

For the Manual.

MEDICAL SCIENCE.

MR. EDITOR:—I have been thinking that it would not be amiss to make a brief extract from Abercrombie's “Application of the rules of philosophical investigation to *medical science*.” He says, “There has been much difference of opinion among philosophers in regard to the place which medicine is entitled to hold among the physical sciences; for while *one* has maintained that it “rests upon an eternal basis, and has within it the power of rising to perfection,” it has been distinctly asserted by *another*, that “*almost the only resource of medicine is the art of conjecturing*.” “The following apologue,” says D'Alembert, “made by a physician, a man of wit and of philosophy, represents *very well* the state of that science. ‘Nature,’ says he, ‘*is fighting with disease*; a blind man, armed with a club, i. e., *the physician*, comes to settle the difference. He first tries to make peace; when he cannot accomplish this, he lifts his club and *strikes at random*; if he strikes

the disease, he kills the disease ; *if* he strikes nature, he kills nature.”

“An eminent physician,” says the same writer, “renouncing a practice which he had exercised for thirty years, said, ‘I am wearied of guessing.’” Abercrombie pursues the theme further, and thereby let falls his own convictions relative to the same subject ; which ought to bring every honest thinking mind to a halt in the matter. He says “The *uncertainty* of medicine, which is thus a theme both for the philosopher and the humorist, is *deeply felt by the practical physician in the daily exercise of his art.*”

The remarks which I am about to append to the *facts* above recorded, are those which very naturally grow out of the subject. None will therefore deem it a thrust at men ; but a simple development of things as they are.

If, as the first quotation asserts, the science of medicine “has within it the power of rising to perfection,” we have one science which is so tardy in its march of improvement that it demands of every candid man an investigation relative to its empty pretensions. Upwards of twenty centuries have elapsed since the renowned founder of medicine flourished ; and whoever investigates the simplicity of his practice, and compares it with that in vogue at the present day among the diplomatised practitioners, will be ready to declare that it has been in one constant retrogression from its foundation until now. One innovation after another has seized the *simples* of the founder of their science and thrust them into oblivion, while the swelling pretenders have exulted in wild triumph over the ill-fated prostration of all that was valuable in the healing art. While a volume might be written upon this point, I will leave it, with the statement that *universal fact* goes to disprove the position that “the science of medicine has within it the power of rising to perfection.” And here I wish to be distinctly understood to refer to the science in use among the learned doctors of the day. For the author alludes to none other.

The next point observed is that the science of medicine among those who are only dabbling in the healing art, has scarce nothing *but the art of conjecturing* for its only resource. Are these the individuals who are based upon such a foundation ; one of mere blind conjecture, guess-work and experiment, the persons who are so ready to fly in the face of the man who claims to have found “the philosopher’s stone?” Did human beings know no history of the fall of man, here is proof positive. Scientific wisdom is baffled in every conflict

with disease ; yet ready to die of phrensy when one is taught to conquer.

Did the dupes to scientific pretensions know the honest convictions in the minds of those to whom they intrust their lives, would they not exclaim—“Away, ye triflers ! nature is weary of your presence?”

One word to those who are willing to look into facts as they are, and I take leave of this subject for the present. While it is confessed by those who are at the head of the profession in the science of medicine, that it is but *wearisome guessing, conjecture, and uncertainty*—are you willing to subject yourselves to the *next experiment*, tamper with your precious lives, and while in the eddy of devouring disease, aided by nostrums portentous with death into another state of existence ? I speak not unadvisedly. I have investigated these matters and am sure that Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON has found “the philosopher’s stone.” Instead of coming like the blind man to strike at random in the conflict between nature and the disease ; he comes, having his eyes open, with a reinforcement to assist nature in putting the enemy to flight. Be timely and faithful in these measures, and you can have no complaint to render on the score of uncertainties.

E. W.

Henrietta, March, 1841.

For the Manual.

AN IRISHMAN’S SORE LIVER.

MISTHER EDITOR:—I’m jist goin to be afther telling ye a bit iv a circumstance. Ye must know thin, that I was afther saeing in yer Manual larst winther a letther frum “Parthrick O’Flummerton,” who died iv the reumatis under one iv the rigler docthors, an’ thin was cured by Stame and Lobalia. Well thin, I’m the b’y that’s afther knowing Parthrick well, an’ fath, he’s a thrue hearted Irishman. So says I, Parthrick, was that afther being yer oun letther, written wid yer oun flippers, an’ was it all trrue that ye said iv the Thomsonian folks down in Salem sthrate ?

“Trrue?” said he, “yes, trrue as the holy saints.”

“Enough,” said I, “I’ll be afther going down there directly.” An’ I did go, Misther Editor, an’ they cured me. Fath, now, an’ I belave I’ve cominced me letther wrong end foremost, for I’ve not been afther telling ye that I was sick, at all at all.

Well thin, ye see, I was taken wid sich a pain in me breast, that I could hardly brathe ; ’an could nather slape nor ate. An’ I was afther being so wake that I could not run down hill. So I wint to see one iv the riglar docthors, an’ tould him how

bad I felt entirely, an' asked him what was the matter wid me.

"Oh," said he, "yer throubled wid *torpidity of the liver*."

"A *torpedo* in me liver?—O, blood an' ouns, how was it afther getting there, pray?"

"No, no," said the docthor, laughing, "not a torpedo—torpidity, I said; that is, yer liver is sort o' numb, dead, or in other words, *lazy*."

"The big blaggart," said I to meself, "to call me liver lazy. Niver mind, though, so long as I've got no *lazy bones*, like himself."

Well, he sint me to get some midicine to take, an' tould me if I was n't afther getting better in a wake, to call agan. At the ind iv the wake I was no better entirely, but much sicker, sure; so I jist stepped in to the docthor's again, an' tould him his midicine had not *touched off the torpedo*, for I was no better at all at all. Well, the docthor looked iv me pulse an' felt iv me tongue, an' said he, "I belave I was mistaken a bit whin I tould ye that yer liver was torpid, for I now percaive that yer afther not having *iron* enough in yer blood."

"*Iron* in me blood!—would ye be for palarvering me, docthor, jist becace I'm a poor Irishman?"

"By no manes," said he: "there's *iron* in all pape's blood—there's enough in eight men to make a *ploughshare*!"

"The divil there is," said I—"I was not afther knowing that before."

"Because ye have not had advantage of *learning* and *science*," said the docthor.

"Viry true," said I. "Well thin, if there's afther being *iron* enough in the blood iv *eight men* to make a *ploughshare*, I belave there's enough in *one woman* for the same purpose, sure: for I've been try- ing these sax months to make an *impression* on the *heart* of Mary O'Flarhity, but divil a bit can I suc- ceed: an' this must be the rason, sure; her blood, an' therefore her heart is afther being all *iron*. O, what a *hard-hearted* crayture she is."

"Well," said the docthor, "I'll give ye a little *tincture of iron* to take, which will not only cure ye in a few days, but make your heart as *hard* as Mary's, so ye'll be aven with her."

"Viry well, docthor," said I; "I hope it will be afther curing me. At inny rate, I'm viry much obliged to ye, entirely, for what ye have tould me about *iron* in blood; for I niver could tell for the life iv me before, what Samson was afther maining whin he tould those blaggarts the Philistines about *ploughing* wid his heifer; but it's all very ivident now, they turned his wife—who must have had a praty large lot iv *iron* in her blood—into a *plough- share*!"

Well, I tuk the *tincture of iron*, as the docthor tould me, an' fath, it was afther viry near kilding me intirely. So I wint to the docthor again, an' tould him I thought there was *iron* enough in me blood, for I was so *cold* an' *heavy* that I could but jist drag me bog-throtters afther me. An' what do ye think the docthor was afther saying thin? Why, that he had been mistaken again, an' sure. "Your symp- toms," said he, "now plainly indicate that your liver is ulcerated, full iv little biles; and I'll give ye some ointment to rub on yer breast that will be afther drawing them right strate out, and thin ye'll get well intirely."

"Docthor," said I, "what in the name of the Holy Virgin is the use iv all yer *learning* an' *science*, if ye have to *guess* what ails a man, afther all?"

"Oh," said he, "there are some *peculiar constitutions*, it is true, that we can n't tell *exactly* about. But I feel certain I've hit yer disease this time. Jist rub this ointment well on yer right breast an' side, an' if it don't be afther drawing out the sores from yer liver, as I tell ye, I'll not charge ye any thing at all at all for me professional services."

So home I wint an' rubbed on the ointment, an' true enough, nixt morning I was a complate Job. I put on more an' more iv the ointment—the sores come out thicker an' thicker, an' murtheration to it, I groud sicker an' sicker. But still I thought I should spaidily be betther, so I continued rubbing on the stuff till I was so sore I could not bear me clothes to touch me at all at all. What a poor de- caived divil I was afther being. Well, one night I was jist putting on a lot iv me ointment, whin me big toe tuk a notion to itch, an' I schratched it a bit wid me fingers I'd been putting on the stuff wid; an' in the morning, fath an' ouns, I had a complate *liver sore* on me toe! "Arrah, misther docthor," said I, "an' is this the way ye have chaited me? this stuff *makes* the sores instead iv dhrawing thim out! O, ye big blaggart." But to be certain this was afther being the game, I got me good ould mither to rub a little iv the ointment on the back iv her hand, and she viry soon had a *liver sore* there! An' to complate the thrial, I jist put some iv the salve on the tips iv the ould cat's ears, an' by all the Saints in the calendar, she was afther having two as ugly looking *liver sores* as iver honored inny two- futed baste. Arrah now, an' who should come in but the docthor himself—knowing, an' sure, that I could n't be afther getting to see him, wid all me liver sores!

"How are ye to day?" said he.

"Look iv me side, an' ye'll be afther seeing," said I.

"That's right," said the docthor—"did n't I tell

ye it would be afther dhrawing all the sores frim yer liver?"

"Fath, an' ye jist did; but look haer, docthor," said I, showing him me big toe.

"Sthrange!" said he.

"An' jist be afther looking iv this," scraigned me gude ould mither, houlding up her hand.

The docthor comminced mouving towards the door.

"An' jist look haer, ye big blaggart," said I—houlding up the ould cat's sore ears before his peepers—"did ye iver look on sich complate *liver sores* as these before?"

This was afther being too much for him, Mither Editor, an' he tuk to his throtters without aven saying—"Be afther paying this bill." I've niver seen the gintleman since; but if iver he sinds in his bill, botheration to him, I'll jist be afther takin him up for obtaining money under false pretinces, sure.

Well, I was now in a divil iv a plight, intirely. Sick, lame, an' all one side kivered wid *liver sores*! But jist thin, gude luck brot' in Pat O'Flummerton, as I tould ye before I comminced writing this letter, an' he tould me they'd be afther curing me at the Infirmary in Salem sthrate, without having to guess what was the matther iv me. So I wint there an' tuk thra courses iv midicine, an' was cured intirely. I was praity sick whin I tuk the lobalia, it is true, for a little while; I felt as if a *torpedo* was in me thin.—O, murther! how it wint *whizzing* about me. But it was n't half so sevaire as the *liver sores*!

Now, I'd jist be afther saying to me oun dear counthrymen, that I hope they'll all take the "Timperance Plidge," an' live up to it; an' whinever they are sick, jist take Thomsonian midicines, which will be afther curing the *inside*, without making *liver sores* on the *outside*!

DAN. O'BROGUE.

Boston, March 25, 1841.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

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GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles* and *Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

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* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass."

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

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BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.”—SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, APRIL 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 11.]

For the Manual.

ON THE CONTAGIOUS NATURE OF PERTUSSIS OR HOOPING COUGH.

BY DOCT. ALEXANDER C. DRAPER, of *Philadelphia*.

From the earliest history of pertussis, down to the present time, the doctrine has prevailed and been advocated by every systematic author with whom we are acquainted, that it is a *contagious* disease.

By Underwood this disease is said to be “certainly infectious, (contagious,) and one of those that never appear a second time.”

Doct. Cullen states that “this disease is commonly *epidemic* and manifestly contagious. It seems to proceed from a contagion of a specific nature and singular quality.”

Darwin supposed this disease to be propagated by contagion, and Burns taught the same doctrine.

Gregory believes pertussis to be contagious, and his annotator, Professor Potter, states it to be “unquestionably propagated by an effluvium from the lungs under the action of a specific secretion.”

This doctrine, which has existed for ages, been taught and supported by the ablest professors of medicine, it would seem like medical heresy to doubt, but as every doctrine is a legitimate subject of investigation, however sanctioned by high authority, we hope we shall not be deemed arrogant or presumptuous if we attempt to examine the truth of the doctrine which inculcates the contagious nature of pertussis.

Well aware that the only correct mode of arriving at truth, is by making the principles of the inductive philosophy our guide, we have pursued that method in conducting our investigations, and although some of our conclusions are deductions from reasoning *a priori*, or first principles, it is upon those only which are the legitimate deductions from reasoning *a posteriori*, or in other words those which are fairly drawn from facts, that we wish to be relied on.

It can readily be inferred from some of our preceding remarks, that we make no pretensions to originality; we are not the first who have called in question the contagious nature of pertussis. Professor Caldwell, in his annotations to the work of Cullen, has the following remarks in relation to this subject. “We would not” observes the doctor, “be understood of positively denying to pertussis the property

of contagion: but we are at a loss for facts to prove its possession of it.” If our memory does not deceive us, we think Doct. Dewees has some observations to the same purport as the preceding, in his work on the diseases of children.

When we first commenced our professional career, we firmly believed that pertussis was a contagious disease, but having seen so many instances in the course of our practice, tending to invalidate the doctrine, we were compelled to abandon the ground as utterly untenable and incapable of being supported by facts.

If it can legitimately be inferred from the tenor of our reasoning, and the facts we shall subsequently adduce, that pertussis is exempt from the character of contagion, we think we shall have rendered an acceptable service to the community, in lessening the miseries and “ills which flesh is heir to,” by the removal of an imaginary evil, and which has only existed in the excited imaginations of the lovers of hypothesis.

The opinion that hooping-cough is a contagious disease exerts a pernicious and baneful influence in society. If a report obtains circulation that a certain child in a certain family has hooping-cough, all intercourse with that family is immediately suspended; the members of it and particularly the little sufferer is avoided as if it carried the contagion of small pox, or the deadly influence of the plague. But the mischievous consequences resulting from this opinion does not stop at the mere suspension of social intercourse; associated with the term contagion, is the belief that all contagious diseases must continue a definite time, and that it is out of the power of our art to arrest or control them. The dangerous and frequently fatal consequences resulting from this opinion can be readily appreciated; it is fraught with error; for it is well known that the most dangerous of contagious diseases, small pox, is very much under the control of medicine; and although we cannot arrest it, we have it in our power by the judicious administration of remedial agents to control its violence, and avert in many instances its fatal tendencies. We perfectly agree with Professor Hosack, that “the abuse of the terms contagion and infection, and the neglect of writers in not annexing to them a precise definition of the manner in which they employ them, have been the source of much medical warfare.” We shall therefore attempt to avoid this

error, by defining what we mean by each of these terms. By the term contagion, we mean a specific poison endowed with the property of self-propagation, independent of any auxiliary circumstance. Contagious matter is the result of a *morbid glandular secretion*, or in other words, it is a *secretion from living arteries*. Infectious matter is the result of the chemical decomposition of the particles of *inanimate matter*, or the atoms of bodies *destitute of vitality*; or infectious matter may be termed the product of bodies in a state of putrefaction. As we are not aware that pertussis ever arises from the last mentioned source, we shall dismiss that part of the subject, with merely observing that there can be no confounding of the terms, as the distinction we have drawn is clear and definite.

As we have before observed, contagious matter is the result of a morbid glandular secretion: "it is a secreted humor from a living vascular surface of a poisonous quality, and capable of exciting a disease like to that by which itself was produced, when applied to the living system of a healthy animal of the same species."

Small Pox, Variola Vaccinæ, and Syphilis, are strictly contagious diseases; we have positive evidence that they are such: there is in these diseases a morbid glandular secretion of matter, evident to the senses, which matter when applied to the body of a healthy subject will produce its own specific disease, independent of any adventitious circumstance.

Contagious matter is *specific* in its nature, if it were not, it would cease to be contagious, because the quality of contagious matter is, to be capable of reproduction, generated in the human system, by a morbid glandular secretion.

In those diseases which are certainly known to be contagious, the sanguiferous system is essentially implicated; hence the formation of buboes in syphilis, and the extensive secretion of matter in small pox; but in the disease under consideration, the blood vessels seldom participate, and it has never yet been shown that any arterial secretion of matter takes place, or that the glandular system is in a specific manner affected.

The generally received opinion is, that pertussis is propagated by an "effluvium from the lungs under the action of a specific secretion,"* although there has never been a particle of evidence adduced, to show that this is really the case: this opinion appears to have arisen from the lungs being principally affected, and from the disease frequently prevailing over large districts of country at one and the same time. It

is to the last mentioned source that most diseases which have prevailed as epidemics, have at one period or other been considered as contagious.

It would naturally suppose, that if the lungs did really perform a specific secretory action, that the matter expectorated would certainly possess properties adequate to reproduction, when introduced into the system of a healthy subject; but it will appear from some of the experiments we shall presently exhibit, that this is not the fact, and that the disease cannot be induced by this process.

Another source from which the contagionists argue in support of their doctrine is, that like most other diseases which are truly contagious, pertussis affects but once in a life time: although this is true in the main, yet there are many exceptions, not only in those diseases which are propagated by specific contagion, but in the one under consideration.

Louis XV. died of a second attack of small pox, at the age of sixty-four, having undergone that disease at the age of fourteen. There have been numerous instances since his day of persons having a second attack of small pox, which are well known to the generality of physicians.

Although we have admitted that it is generally true, that persons are exempt from a second attack of pertussis, we do not believe that this arises from the constitution having undergone that unknown change which takes place in contagious disease, but from the lessened susceptibility to spasmodic diseases, which increases as age advances from childhood to old age.

Several cases have come under our immediate notice, in which persons were affected with a second attack of the disease. We have now before us a letter from Doct. W. D. Brinckle, a very respectable and intelligent practitioner of the city of Philadelphia, in which he states he had whooping-cough in the summer of 1827, for the second time. We were severely affected with a second attack of the disease during the summer of 1827, having been the subject of the disease in our infancy.

Professor Hosack arranges the disease under consideration in his second class of contagious diseases, and states that it is communicable both by contact and the atmosphere, more readily by the former than the latter, and through an impure more certainly than a pure atmosphere. Facts are certainly wanting to prove any of these positions, and as he has not favored us with any evidence to support these, we shall subsequently adduce what we think is conclusive proof that they are entirely unfounded.

A disease is contagious or it is not. If it be

* Doct Potter's Notes to Gregory's Practice.

contagious, it will spread under any and all circumstances, as readily in one place as another, and as quickly and with as much certainty through a pure as an impure atmosphere, through the obscure hamlets of the poor peasantry as well as the stately mansions of the rich.

Contagious diseases will propagate themselves, unless prevented by a removal or entire separation of the healthy from the sick: but the reverse of this is true in regard to pertussis; this disease is not communicated from the sick to the well like contagious diseases, neither can it be contracted by actual contact, by inhaling the breath of or even sleeping with a subject of the disease.

We frequently observe a sporadic case of this disease in the country in a large family of children, where they have never had the disease, without its even extending to the members of the same family, although they are constantly exposed to the contagious effluvium, if any such exist. How are we to reconcile this fact with the notion of the disease's being propagated by specific contagion? If a case of small pox was to occur under the same circumstances, is it supposable that the disease would not spread? Certainly not. Small pox, possessing as it does the powers of self-propagation independent of any auxiliary circumstance, would spread from the individual affected, as from a puncture saliens or point, through the whole family, and from thence, through the neighborhood and surrounding country, ad infinitum, unless all communication was suspended between the sick and the well, or the inhabitants secured by timely vaccination.

The question arises, why does the disease affect the inhabitants of whole neighborhoods and districts of county at one and the same time? we answer, that when pertussis prevails over large districts of county (which it frequently does) at one and the same time, is always dependent on *atmospheric* influence for its propagation, and like all other diseases originating from the same source, frequently affects the inhabitants of whole cities, and prevails over large sections of county at the same time; but its prevailing in a family, neighborhood, city, or section of county, is certainly no logical proof that the disease is propagated by contagion.

Intermittent and bilious fever, dysentery, and a number of diseases, might with the same propriety of reasoning be regarded as contagious diseases, if we argue from the circumstance of their prevalence. Doct. Thomas remarks, that it must be admitted that there is a principle independent of contagion, capable of producing the complaint, and that this *principle exists in the atmosphere*, which it pervades to a certain

extent. And Doct. Cullen, although he believes the disease to be propagated by contagion, says that it is *commonly epidemic*.

The following remarks of Professor Caldwell are so applicable to, and illustrative of our subject, that we shall offer no apology for quoting them at large.

"It often appears" observes the doctor, "without any obvious cause, and prevails throughout neighborhoods of considerable extent, and where the families are thinly scattered and remotely situated. In these instances, it attacks families between which there is no kind of intercourse. The disease must therefore originate in a *common source*, and that source must necessarily be the *atmosphere*. Besides, hooping-cough in passing through a neighborhood never observes that regular march which would justify the belief that it is communicated only from the sick to the well. It does not, for example, commence in the north and travel to the south, in the west and travel to the east, nor are its movements the reverse of these. It attacks scatteringly and promiscuously, as if it proceeded from a common source, and were governed in its march by the different susceptibilities of those who become subject to it, or by the variety in their exposure and exciting causes."

Hooping-cough in its march observes that law which governs all diseases depending on atmospheric influence, in merely predisposing the system to the disease, rendering it necessary for its development, that an exciting agent should be applied; and here we observe a material difference between hooping-cough and a really contagious disease. The matter of small pox and syphilis act when introduced into the system as the predisposing and exciting causes of their respective diseases, independent of any adventitious circumstance; but it is quite otherwise with the cause of pertussis, as before stated, the atmosphere, or *that something* in the atmosphere, and with the properties of which we are totally unacquainted, merely predisposes the system to the disease, an exciting cause is positively required to bring it into action.

Marsh miasmata predisposes the system to intermittent and bilious fevers, but an occasional cause is necessary to develop them.

Contagious diseases cannot be arrested in their progress but by a separation of the healthy from the sick: other diseases may in many instances be certainly and effectually destroyed, by a removal of the cause from which the disease emanates; or in other words, a removal or destruction of the agent from which the predisposing cause proceeds, or the careful avoidance of exciting causes.

If occasional causes were scrupulously avoided, the predisposing cause would in most in-

stances remain inert, and consequently no development of disease could take place, except in those diseases which are strictly contagious, and which possess the power of generating in the system a poison, endowed with the quality of predisposing to and exciting its respective diseases by its own specific action. In conclusion of this point of our subject, we will remark, that contagious diseases are generally more slow and gradual in their progress, than those which depend upon foreign exciting causes for their development; and this can readily be accounted for when we consider that exciting causes are constantly acting on the body, and that we are continually inhaling morbidic poison, when an atmospheric disease is prevailing.

We will now briefly state some of the facts from which the principal part of the foregoing reasoning has been drawn; they ought to have more consideration from the circumstance of the disease's having prevailed as an epidemic, and consequently every person was alike exposed to the morbidic cause, and by its affecting only one or two in a large family of children, although the cause was general, thereby demonstrating (as far as the negative of a property can be demonstrated) that the disease required an exciting cause to bring it into action.

At the farm of the late Judge Tilghman, in Queen Ann's county, Md., there are considerable numbers of negroes. In the month of August, 1827, pertussis made its appearance among the negro children at the quarter; three of them were affected with the disease severely, and although there was no separation of the healthy from the sick, but every opportunity favorable for the propagation of a contagious disease present, by the sick being constantly with the well, by their eating out of the same dish, drinking from the same cup, and sleeping together in the same bed, yet the disease did not spread beyond the number named. The house where the overseer resides, is but a few yards distant from the negro quarter; his children (the overseer) had never been subjects of the disease: they were frequently with the affected children at the quarter, but escaped contracting the complaint.

Mr. M., of Kent county, has several small children, which have never been affected with whooping-cough. During the summer of 1827, a lady who resided in the immediate vicinity of Mr. M., visited his family with her infant child affected with the disease. As soon as Mr. M. understood that her child was laboring under the disease, he became alarmed for the safety of his own, supposing, as a matter of course, that his children must eventually contract the disease, if all intercourse was not immediately suspended. Upon this occasion we were consulted:

we gave it as our opinion that the disease was not contagious, and that consequently his apprehensions were unnecessary; fortunately, our opinion was relied on, the daily visits were not prohibited, the child was with the children of Mr. M. throughout the whole course of its disease; but unfortunately for the advocates of the contagion of pertussis, Mr. M's. children have not as yet exhibited any symptoms of the disease.

We have three children who never had whooping-cough until last summer, (1827,) when our eldest, a boy five years old, became, without any apparent cause, a subject of the disease. He had been to no place where the disease was, neither had any person been to the house affected with it. To give every thing as fair a chance as possible, we let the disease continue its course for some time, without attempting to arrest it, but merely moderating its violence by the exhibition of palliative remedies.

His sister, a younger child, was put in the same bed to sleep with him; we frequently made her inhale his breath, applied the perspirable matter of his body to her arms and thighs, *we took of the matter expectorated and inserted it in her arms*, near the insertia of the deltoid muscle, and used every effort our ingenuity could devise to communicate the disease, but without success. The infant child at the breast was frequently put in contact with his body when in a state of perspiration; we made him suck at the breast for a few moments, and then applied the infant, but with the same result as her sister.

These facts we think conclusive, and if it were deemed necessary we could advance a number of instances equally striking; but we presume the preceding are sufficient.

Location and Nature of Pertussis.—A variety of opinions have been entertained in relation to the primary location and character of whooping-cough.

By some authors this disease is located in the diaphragm, by others in the lungs, the stomach, and by a later writer the brain is supposed to be the original seat of the complaint and the organ principally affected.

Darwin supposed the disease to consist in an inflammation of the membrane which lines the air vessels of the lungs.

Doct. Cullen tells us that the immediate and proximate cause of pertussis is a viscid matter or phlegm, lodged upon the bronchia trachea and fauces, which is expectorated with the greatest difficulty, and which is the cause of all the distressing symptoms of the disease. He places the disease in the class spasmodic; and Doct. Gregory views it in the same character, but with a strong tendency to inflammation, requiring for

its cure the anti-spasmodic remedies, while others, viewing it as an inflammatory complaint, reprobate the practice, and tell us that the treatment is to be conducted on antiphlogistic principles.

Underwood states that Astruc considered the disease as an inflammation of the larynx and pharynx, produced by an affection of the stomach. We will not positively deny that in many cases the larynx, the pharynx, the lungs, and the membrane which lines them, are affected with inflammation, but in the great majority of cases we do not believe that these parts are involved in inflammation, and when this condition of things does occur, we are disposed to attribute it to the violence and long continuance of the disease, a peculiarity of constitution, debility of the lungs and their appendages, or inflammatory diathesis, whereby these parts are more readily excited to inflammatory action, and not constituting an original and essential part of the disease.

The complaint in its early stages is certainly spasmodic, but from its force, long continuance, and from the strong disposition in early life to febrile action, the lungs and their tissues, frequently become involved in inflammation.

The following post mortem examination of a fatal case of this disease by Dr. Webster, will show that the thoracic viscera, are not always affected with inflammation, even when the disease itself has been the immediated cause of death:—

“On opening the chest about thirty hours after death, the external appearance of the lungs was quite healthy, no adhesions were formed in any part of the thorax. The larynx and trachea were slit open with a pair of sissors, and the ramifications of the bronchia, were minutely and carefully traced into the different lobes of the lungs, but no diseased appearance was observed at any point. There was no abrasion of surface, nor unusual vascularity; indeed it seemed scarcely different from the natural state.”

Dr. Gregory observes that himself and others have witnessed numerous instances, in which on examination after death, nothing preternatural was to be observed in the three great cavities of the body.

If the lungs and their membranes were involved in inflammation, we should have as necessary and constant symptoms, either pain in some part of the thorax, or difficult respiration, or both; but it is well known to any person in the least conversant with the disease, that neither of these symptoms are hardly ever present, except the last, and that only during and immediately after the paroxysm of coughing.

Dr. Webster locates the disease in the brain, from observing that that organ evinced marks

of great vascularity and turgescence of the blood vessels, together with an effusion of serum; but these appearances are to be considered as consequences of the violence, and continuance of the disease, as we can readily imagine that the brain may become affected with congestion and even inflammation, terminating in effusion, when we consider with what force the blood is driven to that organ and its free return from the spasm of the lungs, during the paroxysms of coughing.

That the blood is driven in large quantities to the brain during a fit of coughing is demonstrated by the suffusion of face, turgescence of the vessels of the head, and by the hæmorrhages which frequently occur from the nose and ears.

We believe that there is entirely too much confidence placed in post mortem examinations, they can shed but little light on the character of any disease; this may present consequences, but it is not from this source, that we are to look for correct pathological principles.

We will repeat that hooping cough in its early stages is purely a spasmodic affection, and hence the efficiency of the Thomson remedies.

This essay having already exceeded in length my original design, I shall say nothing of the treatment, to be pursued in affections of this kind. The discussion of this subject will form another paper.

Boston, March 29, 1841.

OBSERVATIONS ON MEASLES.

BY DOCT. ALEXANDER C. DRAPER, of *Philadelphia*.

This complaint is now very prevalent among children in this city, (Boston,) and it behooves parents to pay every attention to the malady, however slight, as by neglect or improper treatment, it frequently lays the foundation for consumption, and in all scrofulous constitutions, is to be regarded with much apprehension. Like hooping-cough, measles is supposed by many to be contagious, but this is an error, and the same arguments which we have urged against the former's possessing this attribute, will with equal force apply to the latter. Measles prevails more generally at this than any other season of the year. Persons once affected with this malady, are rarely subject to a second attack.

Symptoms.—It generally commences like a common cold, and for the first few days it is impossible to distinguish it from an ordinary catarrh. The first symptoms are shiverings, succeeded by heat,—accompanied with heaviness in children, and headache in adults. There is a slight inflammation and heat in the eyes, attended with swelling of the eyelids, a defluxion of acrid tears, an inability to bear the light, fre-

quent sneezing, with a discharge of a thin acrid fluid from the nostrils.—Sooner or later, continued fever sets in, with a distressing cough, a sense of tightness across the chest, difficulty of breathing, nausea and vomiting.

About the fourth, and sometimes the fifth day, red spots, resembling flea bites, begin to appear on the forehead and other parts of the face, and successively on the lower parts of the body, which increase, run together, and form large red spots or blotches of different figures. The spots on the face sometimes appear a little prominent to the touch; but on other parts do not rise higher than the surface of the skin. Generally on the third day of the eruption, the viscid redness is changed to a brownish red, and in a day or two more, entirely disappears, and is succeeded by a mealy scaling of the scarf skin; and often at this stage we have considerable embarrassment in breathing, short dry cough, hoarseness, pains in the chest, with more or less fever; these symptoms, if not soon removed, will in scrofulous habits often terminate in tuberculous consumption.

Treatment. The management of measles is very simple; in mild cases, unattended with difficulty of breathing, or pains in the chest, it will be sufficient merely to confine the patient to a warm room, and give freely through the day of composition tea. In preparing this tea for children, it should be well sweetened with loaf sugar, with an addition of milk. By this plan, composition tea is rendered more palatable, and children will drink it more freely than if otherwise prepared.

In cases, however, marked with greater severity, when the eruption does not come out freely, and where there is embarrassment in breathing, the patient must immediately be taken through a full Thomsonian course, consisting of an emetic, the vapor bath and the enema. After going through the course, the patient must be put in a clean dry bed, drink freely as before directed of the composition tea, and if the face is flushed and the head hot and dry, the parts must be frequently bathed with *cool* water, while at the same time, hot stones are kept to the feet. Throughout the whole course of the complaint, the diet ought to be of a light farinaceous kind, such as gruel, milk-porridge or sago. The patient should also partake freely of stewed prunes every day. For the cough, the following remedy may be used advantageously.

Take one quart of slippery elm tea—two large lemons sliced, and as much sugar candy as will render it palatable. Simmer over the fire for a few minutes, then strain the clear liquid off, and when cold, add of the tincture of lobelia one ounce—tincture of blood-root one ounce, and syrup of Indian turnip two ounces.—

Of this, a small wine-glass full may be given several times a day. If this dose should produce too much sickness, or vomiting, the quantity must be lessened.

Doct. Thomson's cough syrup may also be given as a substitute for the above.—In nearly all thoracic affections, Doct. Thomson's syrup will be found of singular efficacy.

If after the eruption has disappeared, there should remain cough and diarrhœa, the courses of medicine must be repeated from time to time as occasion may require, and as the symptoms demand. The patient should be exceedingly careful not to be exposed too soon to cold, but should guard against it by warm clothing, and at all times particularly shun exposure during the prevalence of cold damp easterly winds.

Boston, March 29, 1841.

PRESERVATION OF THE MENTAL POWERS.

Fatuity from old age cannot be cured; but it may be prevented by employing the mind constantly in reading and conversation, in the evening of life. Dr. Johnson ascribes the fatuity of Dean Swift to two causes: first, to a resolution he made in his youth, that he would never wear spectacles; from the want of which he was unable to read in the decline of life: and second, to his avarice, which led him to abscond from visitors, or deny himself to company; by which means he deprived himself of the only two methods by which new ideas are acquired, or old ones renovated. His mind, from these causes, languished from the want of exercise, and gradually collapsed into idiotism, in which state he spent the close of his life, in a hospital founded by himself for persons inflicted with the same disorder, of which he finally died.

Country people, when they have no relish for books, when they lose the ability to work, to go abroad, from age or weakness, are very apt to become fatuitous; especially as they are too often deserted in their old age by the younger branches of the families; in consequence of which, their minds become torpid from the want of society and conversation. Fatuity is more rare in cities than in country places, only because society and conversation can be had in them upon more easy terms; and it is less common among women than men, only because they seldom survive their ability to work; and because their employments are of such a nature as to admit of their being carried on by their firesides and in a sedentary posture.

The illustrious Dr. Franklin exhibited a striking instance of the influence of reading, writing, and conversation, in prolonging a sound and active state of all the faculties of his mind. In

his eighty-fourth year, he discovered no one mark in any of them, of the weakness or decay usually observed in the minds of persons at that advanced period of life.

I cannot dismiss this subject without remarking that the moral faculties, when properly regulated and directed, never partake of the decay of the intellectual faculties in old age, even in persons of cultivated minds. It would seem as if they were thus placed beyond the influence not only of time, but often of diseases and accidents, from the exercises being so indispensably necessary to our happiness, more especially in the evening of life.

The Rev. Dr. Magaw, I said formerly, had lost, with his memory for events, his consciousness of place and time by a paralytic disease; and yet in this situation he retained, for several years, so high a sense of religious obligation, that he performed his morning and evening devotions with as much regularity and correctness as ever he did, even in the most vigorous and healthy state of his mind.—[Rush.

DEATH FROM TIGHT LACING.

I have seen and am much pleased with your paper and doubt not it will do much good. I hope for it an extensive circulation. In one of the late numbers you called for facts, whether communicated in elegant language or not. I have recently learned one to which I gave all possible publicity, and have told it in almost every circle of the young in which I have since found myself. Two weeks since while on a visit to the house of a respectable, long experienced physician in one of the Southern boundary towns in New Hampshire, he gave me in substance the following account, as near as I can recollect.

He was called, a week or two previous, to visit a young female, I think, over twenty years of age, who was distressingly ill of a complaint of the lungs, laboring under great difficulty of breathing, which his discrimination led him at once to impute to a long continued practice of *tight lacing*—a practice which is slaying its thousands and tens of thousands in our enlightened land.

There was, in his opinion, an adhesion of the lungs to the chest, and a subsequent inflammation which had proceeded to such a height that death was inevitable. Little or nothing could be done. The poor girl after a few days of acute suffering fell a victim to—(what shall I say! I am unwilling to wound the feelings of her friends)—her own folly and vanity. It could not be *suicide*, because no such result was contemplated, though the deed was done by her own hand. We can call it by no softer name

than self-slaughter, for such even an external examination of the body proved it to have been.

The shoulder-blades were found to be literally lapped one over the other; the false ribs had been so compressed that the space of only about an inch and a half remained between them; and so great was the curvature of the spine which had been girded in by the cords of death, that after the corpse was laid out for interment, two pillows were put under the arch thereby formed, while the shoulders rested on the board. She was a large healthy person, and was ignorantly led by the desire to please, to sacrifice her life at the shrine of fashion, and the prevailing false ideas of beauty of form. She was said to be of an amiable disposition and correct moral habits, otherwise.

My own mind was impressed with the recital of this story, that I could hardly forbear weeping over the folly, weakness, ignorance, and wickedness of my sex. I inwardly wished for the ability to ring this case of suffering and death in the ears of every female in our land, until their voluntarily assumed "strait jackets" that indicate nothing more than mental aberration in the wearer, should be voluntarily thrown aside.—[Health Journal.

CULTIVATE POLITENESS OF MANNERS.—It is incumbent upon every one to be courteous and respectful in his intercourse with neighbors, acquaintances, or with the public generally. To inferiors, speak kindly and considerately, so as to relieve them from any feeling of being beneath you in circumstances: to equals, be plain and unaffected in manner; and to superiors show becoming respect, without, however, descending to subserviency and meanness. In short, act a manly, courteous and inoffensive part in all the situations of life in which you may be placed. Society has ordained certain modes of address, and certain signs of respectfulness, which it behooves us to support and personally attend to. By attention to the rules such as we have alluded to, the poorest man will be entitled to the character of a gentleman, and by inattention to them, the most wealthy individual will be essentially vulgar. Vulgarity signifies coarseness or indelicacy of manner, and is not necessarily associated with poverty or lowliness of condition. Thus an operative artizan may be a gentleman, and worthy of our particular esteem; while an opulent merchant may be only a vulgar clown, with whom it is impossible to be on terms of friendly intercourse. We say, cultivate politeness of manner, by all means, for it is refined civility, and will spare both ourselves and others much unnecessary pain.

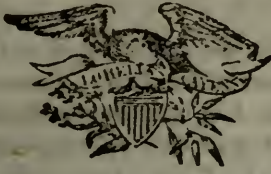
HEALTH AS AFFECTED BY ATMOSPHERIC CHANGES.—As many animals live altogether in the water, and as this fluid contains oxygen as well as air, it is very commonly supposed that such animals breathe the water itself. But all water, in its natural state, contains a large quantity of atmospheric air, which, though we cannot perceive it, may be extracted by art, as you will learn when you see it placed upon an air-pump. While the air-pump is being exhausted, you will observe bubbles of air continually rising through the water. Now, it is generally believed by physiologists, that fish and other animals that live altogether in the water, breathe only the air that it contains, and not the water itself: and it is certain that all the experiments yet tried tend to prove that when water has been artificially deprived of its air it can no longer maintain animal life; so that a fish may then be drowned in its own element.

You all know that a fish, when taken from the water, will soon die, proving that too much air will kill as effectually as too little! Thus, although the birds, quadrupeds, and man, in breathing, use little else than the oxygen contained in the air, yet if we enclose an animal of either of these classes in a vessel of pure oxygen, he will soon die. You will now readily understand why changes of the air, such as those which occur in moving from the mountains to the sea, from a swampy to a dry situation, or the reverse, may seriously affect the health of man and beast, particularly when in a feeble condition.—[Coates's Physiology for Schools.

THE AMERICAN MECHANIC.—The false position this useful class of citizens occupy in the social world is truly lamentable. The degrading aristocratic sentence, that "those who think must govern those who toil," appears to receive their sanction. Tacitly, at least, it does. They have not yet, to this day, made any effort to shake off the controlling influence of the miserable lazaroni of this country, who make laws and live upon their labor and folly. They have power to change this. The Ballot Box is the power in their hands; if they march up to it boldly, with a determination to strike down the system of representing no interest but the *thinking* interest, eschew the stool pigeon system of the non-producing *thinkers*, who occasionally take one of their class, making him, for the present, a being of importance, get from him all they require, then cast him off, as the debauchee does his kept mistress. Form Lyceums, Libraries, &c. for your improvement—go ahead firmly and steadily, and we predict the mechanics in a few years, will occupy their true position in the political and social world.

THE LAWYER AND ETHAN ALLEN, the revolutionary hero.—About forty years since, Allen was sued for a note of about one hundred pounds. As it was not convenient for him to pay it, he employed Chittenden, the lawyer, to manage the case in court and get it put over to the next term. When the case came on, Chittenden accordingly appeared, and as the note was signed by a witness who lived at a distance, he got up and *denied the signature*, knowing the witness could not be produced during the session, and he should obtain the delay his client wished.—The denial of the signature therefore was a mere finesse, and perfectly understood by the court: but Allen chanced to be in the court at the time, and he viewed the matter in a more serious light. Rushing up to the bar of the court and clenching his gigantic fist he made the following address: "Lawyer Chittenden! I did not employ you to come here and tell a barefaced lie! I did sign the note, and I won't deny it, may it please your honors! that's my signature, and that's a good note. I honestly owe the money, and mean to pay it. All I want is that your honors should put it over to the next court, and by that time I shall have the cash from Boston and will pay every farthing of it." The result was by consent of parties, the case was continued to the next term.—Such was the notions of honesty entertained by a soldier of the olden times, that *he could not bear even a fiction of law to deny the obligation of a paper to which his signature was attached.*—[N. Y. Beacon.

AN OLD NEWSPAPER.—There is nothing more beneficial to the reflecting mind than the perusal of an old newspaper. Though a silent preacher, it is one which conveys a moral more palpable and forcible than the most elaborate discourse. As the eye runs down its diminutive, old-fashioned columns, and peruses its quaint advertisements and by-gone paragraphs, the question irresistibly forces itself upon the mind—Where are now the busy multitudes whose names appear on those pages? where is the puffing auctioneer, the pushing merchant, the calculating lawyer, who each occupied a space in such chronicles of departed time? Alas! they have passed away like their forefathers, and are no more to be seen! From these considerations the mind naturally recurs to the period when we, who may enjoy our span of existence in this checkered scene, shall have gone down into the dust, and shall furnish the same moral to our children that our fathers do to us! The sun will then shine as bright, the flowers will bloom as fair as ever—while we are reposing in our narrow cells, heedless of every thing that once charmed and delighted.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitter-root, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, APRIL 15, 1841.

DOCT. THOMSON AND HIS ENEMIES.

It is something curious in the history of the human mind, that those who have been the greatest benefactors to mankind, have always been hunted and persecuted with a zeal, malignity and ferocity, as if they had been savages, tyrants and enemies to humanity. The records of past ages exhibit too many melancholy instances of this lamentable fact; and if a Galileo, a Columbus, a Bacon, a Harvey and a Priestley, did not escape the base persecutions of interested and bigoted men, it is not to be supposed that the Father of Revolutionary Medicine—the refulgent Medical Star of New England—SAMUEL THOMSON, should enjoy a better fate.

By the native energies of his powerful and vigorous mind, he discovered a simple, natural and efficacious mode of curing the many maladies which flesh is heir to; and the “faculty,” pretending to despise his discoveries, have with unrelenting fury hunted him with a fixed determination to destroy him if they could. This, however, was to have been expected, as it is natural for men when their interests appear in jeopardy, when their opinions are called in question, when their strong holds are invaded, and when their craft is put in danger, to resist with all their force the individual who has the temerity to bid them defiance, and laugh to scorn the folly of doctor-magic, and arouse the people to the imposition and wickedness of those who claim exclusive privileges under the darkness of Latin and Greek, and the sanction of parchment authority.

We say that from the faculty all this was natural, and we have but little to urge against it, as self-preservation is the first law of nature; but what shall we say of those men, who, after having

partaken of the bounty of Doct. Thomson, who by him have been taken from the depths of poverty, set up in business, instructed in the application of his system to cure the diseases of men, have first robbed him of his substance, and now wish and endeavor to rob him of his very name? What language is too strong for such villains? what terms too reproachful for such scoundrels? what odium and scorn too great for such rascals? In this matter we appeal to the good and honest of the community; we appeal to them for justice, and know and feel that they will respond to the sentiment “Let justice be done if the heavens fall.” We know that they will not countenance or support these wretched and abominable men, who, stealing Doct. Thomson’s name, are endeavoring by all means, fair and foul, to impose upon the public spurious medicine, and thus bring the system and the whole practice into doubt and disrepute. And who are these men, with a bold audacity worthy of a mountain robber, who are crying “Pure Thomsonian Medicines?” They are those who from lowness, baseness and poverty, have been raised to comfort; and when they found that they could cheat the old man no longer, have turned upon their benefactor, and like the snake in the fable, after being warmed into life by kindness and charity, would sting their friend with the poison and venom of death.

We call upon our fellow citizens—we call upon the friends of humanity—we call upon our countrymen—to awake to the dangers which surround the Thomsonian system, and consign to infamy those impostors who by wicked, aye, diabolical means, are duping the people and eagerly pursuing gain, at the expense of all that is honorable, good, or honest. All we ask is fair dealing and justice: all Doct. Thomson requires is that his system should be kept pure and undefiled from the unwashed hands of those who for mercenary purposes would debase and corrupt it.

We trust that our friends abroad will not permit themselves to be imposed on by those corrupt and debased men, whose only object is money, and who, under Doct. Thomson’s name, will stop at no means to procure it.

The days of Doct. Thomson are but few,—soon will he be called to the grave of his fathers,—his head is bleached with the winters of more than threescore and ten,—ambition for him has no charms, its fire is quenched. Then protect him while he lives, and permit his sun to set undarkened by the clouds of the vicious and the sombre gathering of the persecuting and malignant.

PURE AFRICAN CAYENNE.

DOCT. SAMUEL THOMSON has constantly for sale at his General Depot, No. 40 Salem street, in this city, pure African cayenne. And notwithstanding the base assertions of the Blackstone street gang, those who may need any of the Thomsonian medicines, will find by calling at the above store, that they will be supplied on reasonable terms, with pure medicines. They will find this to be true if they are judges of medicines; and if they are not competent judges themselves, and have any doubts, let them bring good judges and those in whom they can confide.


Although the Blackstone street print has so loudly boasted of its purity, and tried so hard to affix to Doctor Thomson the stigma of selling bad medicines it can not prove either of its statements to be true. Assertions without proof are of no avail, especially when they originate in such a quarter. But what will our readers say when they are told that this Blackstone street gentleman, of purity notoriety, who keeps for sale nothing but the best, has *African* cayenne which was raised in Belchertown, Massachusetts? We do not expect they will believe our mere assertion, and therefore we give them the individual's name who raised the peppers, pulverized them, sold the cayenne, and told the circumstance to us, not knowing that we were a *true Thomsonian*.

On the 6th inst. Mr. Caleb French, of Belchertown, Mass. called on us to transact some business and in the course of conversation spoke of a fine garden which he cultivated last year; stated that the money he had just paid us, he received for the cayenne he raised in it, and had the day before sold to the New England Thomsonian Depot. Thus it is evident, that Mr Hale's good medicine is not all of the very best kind. Verily, "a man seemeth just in his own cause, but his neighbor cometh and searcheth him out."

It appears rather strange that those people who use Doct Thomson's medicines make no complaint as to their being of an inferior quality. But such is the fact; and the only ones who cry out against them, are those individuals who "*make medicines to sell*."

Doct. Thomson's enemies will find that his fame is of too solid a texture to be rent by people of their stamp. He has weathered too many storms heretofore, to be driven ashore now, by a small *Hale-storm*. The noble vessel will keep steadily on in the course of justice which it has always pursued; and when at last it enters its destined harbor in peace, the blessings of the just and good will rest with it; while its slanderers and calum-

niators will remember their baseness and treachery with sorrow and regret.

 We invite the attention of our reader to the following petition of Dr JOHN THOMSON, of Albany, N. Y., to the Legislature of that state. The Thomsonians of that state, petitioned the Legislature for a repeal of the abominable law now on their statute book, by which a Thomsonian may be prosecuted for *curing* a sick person, even after the old medical foxes have pronounced it impossible for him to recover. The old drones sent in a remonstrance against the Thomsonians, but Doct. Thomson, in his usual pithy style is upon them, exposing their hideousness to public view.

DR. JOHN THOMSON'S PETITION IN BEHALF OF THE THOMSONIANS.

To the Honorable the Legislature of the State of New York:—

Your petitioner, an inhabitant of the City and County of Albany, would respectfully represent that he has examined a remonstrance which was presented to your Hon. body by the President and Vice President of the Albany County Medical Society, by order of said society. Your petitioner will therefore beg leave to review said petition by sections, and comment upon the same as he proceeds: this he does in behalf of the very respectable body of Thomsonians who reside in the State of New York, and who cannot answer for themselves respectively. After which your Hon. body can better judge where the true source of ignorance of the public welfare exists, and where too it is cherished with a care and pertinacity worthy of a better cause. Your Hon. body will then be able to learn also the extent of that sympathy for the public good which is so feelingly set forth in said petition.

On or about the 1st of October, 1834, your petitioner was called upon by Mr. Wm. I. Winne, of this city, to accompany him sixteen miles into the country to see a sick brother who had been given over to die by the regular physicians. Your petitioner went with Mr. W. to see his brother and prescribed for him. On his return to the city your petitioner was seen in the carriage with Mr. W. by the then President of the Albany Medical Society. The doctor asked Winne where Thomson had been, and whether he had paid to him any money? To which Winne replied that your petitioner had been into the country to see his brother, and for which service he had paid him *two dollars*. Well, said the president, I will *sue* him and recover *it* back again; and on or about the 4th of October a suit was commenced against your petitioner in the Justices Court of this city, and judgment was obtained for *ten dollars* against him, for receiving the two dollars and benefitting the sick man more than any of the physicians who had previously attended him. This was the deliberate judgment of Mr. Lemuel Jenkins who was one of the most active justices upon the bench at that time. Such a reward your Hon. body will perceive for benefitting a fellow being could not be very flattering to the vanity of your petitioner, or his prospects in a pecuniary point of view. Your petitioner appealed to a higher court,

in order to obtain justice, and the suit was eventually terminated in the Supreme Court, at an expense to your petitioner of about \$350—which was paid. So your Hon. body will perceive that it is not a new thing for the President of the Albany County Medical Society to have an affectionate regard for the *dear* people, or more probably for the exclusive privilege of handling all the money that may be necessary to be expended in time of disease for the comfort of the sick. The learned president says that he would prefer that the term of time for the student to study should be extended beyond the term of four years, rather than less.

Your petitioner is of the same opinion, and would think that *ten years* would not be any too long; his reasons are, that it is well known that the regular physicians admit into their *materia medica* the most deadly poisons of the mineral and vegetable kingdoms.

These poisons are what the wicked have recourse to when they wish to commit suicide, or to destroy the lives of the innocent and unsuspecting; and yet, strange as it may appear, they are considered innocent substances and valuable medicines when in the hands of physicians, to be administered to remove the bodily infirmities of man.

This is a phenomenon which your petitioner could never understand, why an article which will destroy life in the hands of the assassin, is converted into a powerful agent to restore health and comfort when administered by a man who knows the name of every bone and muscle in the body, and can make use of a few Latin phrases, and those imperfectly.

Your petitioner perfectly agrees with the learned president that a much longer time should be required for the student to make his *shield* of technicalities, and learn to deceive the public more successfully, as it can be more thoroughly accomplished in the greatest length of time; therefore, *ten years* would be more desirable than *four*, as that time would enable them to exercise more *legerdemain*, and consequently make the students more accomplished in villany, and scientific in the arts of mystery and deception.

The Thomsonian wants no such shield to cover impositions, for he has none of the kind. He is willing that his medicines should be examined by any and every body, as to their poisonous properties, for he is confident in their innocence, and is strong in faith from long experience in the successful issue of his practice. His *red raspberry*, *witch hazle*, *penny royal*, *black cherry*, and numerous other equally innocent substances, do not require that he should study Latin under the cover of which to shield his poisons, the more effectually to deceive and thereby induce his patients to be more willing to take them.

The principal thing the patient requires in the case where the medicines are known to him to be harmless, is, that the doctor have practical knowledge, in order that he may not be using comparative sedentary medicines, when those that are stimulants might be more necessary—although both are perfectly destitute of deliterious properties—and thus be losing time to the patients.

Who can suppose that the harmless substances mentioned above, can be converted into instruments of death, because the doctor does not understand the dead languages. Is it possible that the ignorance of any man can be so great as to convert *catnip* or *mint*,

or any other equally well known harmless vegetable, into a poison that will destroy life, for want of the knowledge of the Latin term?

Again, can the extensive knowledge which the learned President and Vice President of the Albany County Medical Society may have of the dead languages convert *ratsbane*, *opium*, *saltpetre*, *poison hemlock*, and the *thorn apple* or *apple perue* into as harmless medicines as the innocent vegetable substances before mentioned.

Do the names of *arsenic*, *morphine*, *nitre*, *conium*, *maculatum*, or *datura stranium*, alter the qualities of those deadly drugs? Will they not kill equally as quick when administered under the Latin name as when the English term is applied? If such be the case, is it safe for the patient, whether they be administered by the hand of a wise man or a fool, so long as the articles cannot be altered in their natural qualities. In such cases patients are frequently obliged to hazard the rescue of their lives under the influence of Latin names, where they would not have risked a sixpence in like chances for loss in ordinary business; neither would they have taken the poisons if the English name had been given.

Your petitioner has a case in point. A few days since, a gentleman called upon your petitioner for medicine, who had been under the care of the *learned* President of the Albany County Medical Society, at intervals, for a number of years past. Having at length made up his mind that he had made a thorough trial of the *very learned* president's scientific acquirements, to remove a slight dyspeptic affection, he now would see what virtue there was in quackery, by which means he would be able to compare the difference between the two quacks.

In giving a description of his treatment, he said this *learned* president had given him *sulphuric acid* to create an appetite. Your petitioner asked him if he knew that *sulphuric acid* was *oil of vitriol*? he said he did not, but if that was the case, he should take no more of it. Your petitioner asked him if it was reasonable that any substance which would corrode and destroy the flesh upon the surface, and destroy the teeth, would be healthy and harmless in the stomach? He seemed to think not, which is also the opinion of your petitioner.

Your memorialist fully coincides with the *learned* president that the lives and health of our fellow beings are too valuable to be tampered with by the ignorant and unskilful; hence he regrets very much that the gentleman before mentioned did not call upon some physician who was not so grossly incompetent in the practice of medicine as not to know that *oil of vitriol* should not be given internally as a medicine. And such is the opinion of the 40 or 50,000 Thomsonians who have petitioned your Hon. body the present winter to allow more extensively the botanic practice in simple vegetables.

Those petitioners have seen and compared the regular and irregular practice, or science and quackery, as it is termed by the learned president, and they generally prefer the latter to the former treatment, as the learned president's science has been disseminated with a vengeance for a few years past in the western part of this state.

Your petitioner does not desire any better practice than that offered by the patients that can receive no benefit from under regular scientific treatment as

practised by regular physicians at the present time, as about 16-20ths of them can be restored to a comfortable state of health. In the extensive Infirmary practice in which your petitioner is engaged, he has not lost but one patient in the house, in nearly three years, and they have all, with very few exceptions, been under the care of the regular physicians, and come from almost every state in the Union.

The remonstrance continues "We have seen with regret that a bill has been reported setting aside all requirements, and in favor of a class of persons who make no pretensions to a compliance with the laws of the state."

This is a fact, and the reason is obvious, any man of good common sense, either from the plough, the shop, or any other profession, if he but possess this one ingredient, by taking hold of the Thomsonian system of practice, will become a successful rival to any of those four-year students, and some of them your petitioner would not hesitate to turn out as more than a match in practice, with either of the learned gentlemen above mentioned of the Albany County Medical Society. Your petitioner can mention a number of instances when these three months' quacks, so called, have been more than a match for the regulars, and have run them entirely out of business, and the doctors were under the necessity of seeking business in other places. Under this state of things is it a wonder then that such warm sympathy should move the sensitive hosts of those guardians of the public welfare, for the dear people. We have ever been of the opinion, the regulars to the contrary notwithstanding, that people who are competent to judge who shall be their Legislators, are also equally qualified to select their doctors, without the direct or indirect dictation of law.

Again, say those *disinterested* remonstrants, "we object against this partial legislation, as we have expended our time, money, &c., to obtain our profession in accordance with the law upon that subject, and we can see no propriety in admitting one class of persons to all the privileges and immunities of the profession, without proof of qualification, while it is demanded of another."

Suppose the Hon., the President and Vice President of the Albany County Medical Society, in their over-anxiety to take the full charge of the temporal welfare of the community, had in the plenitude of their mercy manufactured a machine which cost them much time, money and labor, which would destroy mankind much more rapidly than the deadly poisons which are authorized to be used as medicines in the regular *materia medica*, must they be protected by law in the use of their machine, because it has cost them much *time, money, and labor*? and if another person, without spending much "*time or money*," has discovered a very simple plan, by which the greater part of the valuable lives which would otherwise have fallen under their scientific machine, may be saved and instructed how to keep out of its way, and also to guard others against its dangers, must be fined and imprisoned because he cannot portray scientifically in the dead languages, and explain the beauties of his theory in Latin, which but few can understand, and in which many ignorant persons think great knowledge consists. Your petitioner is of opinion that the people are competent judges which machine to employ, without the advice of either of the engineers.

Again, say the remonstrants, "they should exhibit

satisfactory evidence that they have studied medicine with some practitioner four years, and should receive a diploma if found qualified."

If the Thomsonian, fresh from the plough, can perform cures upon patients that have been given over to die by these scientific gentry, how long should he be compelled by law to study with a regular physician, before he became sufficiently *incompetent or ignorant* to receive his DIPLOMA?

"We believe," say these very *honorable* gentlemen, "that any departure from the principles of equal justice would be opposing the interest of the medical profession, and dangerous to the society and welfare of the community."

It is the departure from the principles of equal justice that the Thomsonians complain. They now restore their patients to health, from under the hands of the regular physicians, and if they receive a cent for such service, they are subject to a fine of \$25 for performing a cure that the doctor could not, while he at the same time is well paid, and many times too for making the patient sick. For doctors like long jobs, as well as other professions, and they have the implements and the faculty too, and we have been led to believe many times, that they had the disposition to make the most of their patients. Hear the remarks of the doctors frequently when called to attend the sick. "It is true, you are very sick, but you must expect to be much worse before you are better." Here you have a *premonitory symptom* of what he designs to do, and the patient is a "lucky dog" if the time ever arrives when he is any better.

Again, "your petitioners therefore pray that the law to protect the public from the imposition of unlicensed physicians may not be repealed."

In the last paragraph your petitioner thinks that the Honorable President and Vice President made a mistake in penning it. He thinks it should read "your petitioners therefore pray, that the law to protect our pockets at the public expense, and our impositions on the community upon whom we have been so comfortably saddled for a number of years past, should not be displaced to give place to *justice, honesty, and fair dealing*, between us and our fellow men." Your petitioner has been informed that there are several petitions before your Hon. body, from medical students from various parts of this state, against granting the petition of the Thomsonians.

Your petitioner thinks the reasons set forth by the apprentices not worthy of consideration, until after the masters are able to furnish valid arguments against us, which they are unable to do at present. For until the doctors can compete with the Thomsonians in argument and practice, they will take no notice of the boys.

It is well known that about the time students receive their diplomas, they are the greatest knowledge boxes the community are *distressed* with, as they know more at that time than ever afterwards. Your petitioner thinks the public should be protected by some *sanative* regulations against the *plague, pestilence, and medical students*, for your petitioner could not for his life say which would be the most dangerous to the peace, prosperity, health and happiness of the people.

In conclusion, your petitioner believes that the want of a knowledge of anatomy with the Thomsonians, is owing in a great measure to the almost uninterrupted success in their practice, both in chronic and acute disorders. For if they should lose a patient,

it would be considered sacrilege to violate the body. Such an act would be viewed with horror, and the person would not be safe in the neighborhood of the dead, who should make such an attempt.

But where practitioners are over-abundant in their production of *anatomical subjects*, the sacredness of the dead is in a great measure removed, and the grave and not even the charnal-house are safe depositories for their remains, without stone walls, bars and bolts, to protect the body from violation. The excessive love of anatomy by any physician should cause the public to view his practice with suspicion, for it is a phenomenon in these days to see a good physician and surgeon united in the same person.

Your petitioner therefore requests your Hon. body to weigh the testimony of the President and Vice President of the Albany County Medical Society, and the testimony of the *forty or fifty thousand* Thomsonians who have laid their grievances before your Hon. body, and decide according to evidence, and your petitioner will be satisfied that ample justice will be done this persecuted class of people.

And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

JOHN THOMSON,

In behalf of the Thomsonians of the State of New York.

Albany, March 19, 1841.

DEATH OF THE PRESIDENT.

The sad news of the death of General WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, late President of the United States, must have reached our readers before this. But we notice this national affliction, for the purpose of showing to the public their danger. It is well known to those who have read the account of the manner in which WASHINGTON was treated in his last sickness by his physicians, that he died of the *treatment* rather than the disease! That BYRON, was hurried from his scene of busy activity, by the ignorance or wilfulness of his medical attendants, no one will deny. And when we see that nearly the same course was pursued with Gen. HARRISON—bleeding, cupping, leeching, &c. &c.—by his physicians, which terminated the life of each of the former, can any one for a moment doubt the cause of his death also? Could a different result have been expected? We think not. It is a solemn warning to the whole nation to beware of the lancet gentry! We do not hesitate to say, that if a Thomsonian doctor had been called to the President, and had treated him according to the rules laid down by Doct. SAMUEL THOMSON, that the hopes of the country would not thus be blasted by his death. But he would be now presiding over his country in health and strength!

One week previous to his death, General HARRISON walked through the market in health and activity, we are told! What a comment on the skill of the physician who was called to administer to him in his illness! Were a Thomsonian to

be thus unfortunate in the treatment of any case, even if it were one given over by the “scientifics,” they would let no means escape to persecute, if they did not prosecute him.

For the Manual.

FALSE “REPORTS OF CASES.”

In a late number of a paper falsely called the “Boston True Thomsonian,” there is what purports to be a report of a case successfully treated by one J. W. Chapman. ‘This “report” I pronounce untrue from beginning to end, and a tissue of falsehoods designed to mislead and produce an unjust impression abroad. ‘This Mr. Chapman, who would make a worthy hero in the adventures of a Jonathan Wilde, says that a Mr. Steel, of this city, was attacked with typhus fever during last winter—that he made application to me, but being dissatisfied with my manners and management, he went to Chapman’s Infirmary where he was most miraculously cured by the wonder-working medicines and marvellous skill of the said J. W. Chapman.

When I read the article, I did not know which to admire most, the folly or the impudence of this *true Thomsonian Chap*; and I had almost determined to let the fellow live and in his own vain glory. But upon reflection, I thought it a duty to state to the public the facts of the case, in order to prevent their being duped by the falsehoods of the professed true Thomsonians.

Mr. Steel came to my establishment, took two courses of medicine, was very considerably relieved, returned to his boarding-house, where he continued for a number of days; and, through his own imprudence, he suffered a relapse, and immediately sent for me to attend him. I then had a great many patients in my house, and a number of pressing calls out, so that it was impossible for me to attend at once to the case of Mr. Steel. Under these circumstances, Mr. Steel concluded that I did not wish to attend him, and *from this cause alone* he went, as a last resort, to Mr. Chapman.

Mr. Steel had been sick for a year, and received from my treatment a good deal of relief; and when he went to Chapman, it was because I could not immediately attend to his case.

So much for the veracity of this hero of the “True Thomsonian.”

If any of the readers of this paper would know who this Chapman is, who prates so much about his skill, I would refer them to Doct. Thomson, from whose confidence and employment he was dismissed for unfaithfulness and want of professional knowledge; and likewise to Mr. Foster, corner of Hanover and Commercial sts., who knows something of his *wonderful skill*, as I am informed.

NATH’L S. MAGOON.

Boston, April 10, 1841.

Our correspondents, “Hull” and “J. M.” who have contributed to our columns heretofore, will confer a favor by remembering that the Manual is still open to them; and that they will edify our readers by again writing for its pages.

✎ The following contemptible paragraph we find in the 'Boston True Thomsonian.' We place it before our readers to show them the boldness and bombast possessed by the managers of that craft; it is worthy of any bucanier commander we ever heard of:—

"MYSTERIOUS SILENCE.

"We have repeatedly stated that adulterated medicines have been sold at No. 40 Salem st. This fact Dr. Thomson has never denied, and he dares not deny it!"

There is no good reason for our replying to such miserable lies as the above, and that is the cause of our silence. Every body who has seen the above, knows it to be false; and for us to contradict it, would be telling people what they knew before.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.
SMALL POX.

MR. EDITOR:—In August last, the small pox made its appearance in this place, to the no small consternation of many of its inhabitants. The doctors and the city authorities were forthwith assembled to consult relative to what measures should be adopted to prevent its spread. The conclusion was, not to establish a pest-house, but to compel every one to be vaccinated that had not been previously. Accordingly the law was published in the newspapers, showing the penalty attached to such as refused. At it the doctors went, lancet and quill, greedy as blood-hounds to vaccinate, each one as many as he could, at fifty cents per head, with an eye undoubtedly fixed upon the "loaves and fishes."

About this time I circulated a quantity of Doct. Thomson's 'Treatise on Small Pox,' among the citizens of this place, which had the effect to prevent some from having their families vaccinated. However, the doctors had a plenteous harvest, and the result was, that some of the poor little sufferers nearly lost their lives. One mother told me that such was the condition of her child that it seemed impossible for it to live. She said that "when it held up its little arms, the humor blisters would hang in little bags, and that this was nearly its condition from head to foot." Others were very sick and a long time recovering; and I believe that generally they were longer getting well than those who had the small pox; for such were all out of danger in the course of two weeks from the time of their attack.

Such were the feelings of some towards me, that they talked of compelling me to vaccinate

my family, or pay the fine. They finally never attempted it.

The first subject of small pox was a laboring man, who was all broken out before he confined himself to his room. A regular physician was called, but the disease had so far advanced that but little medicine was given, and the patient soon got well. The family with which he boarded had been, or were at this time, vaccinated; but yet had a touch of the varioloid. Here in this family the small pox would have ended, had it not been for a Mr. Gale, who had had the disease in his childhood by inoculation, and of course thought himself safe. He merely went and looked at the man who was first taken sick, took the varioloid and gave the small pox to his two youngest children who had never been vaccinated. His wife and daughter who had some years before been vaccinated, had the varioloid. This family took Thomsonian medicines, under my directions, and all got well. The two children were severely sick. An old gentleman, also, who assisted this family had the varioloid, took our medicine and soon got well.

By attending these cases, I had the symptoms merely, which came on in about ten or twelve days after I was exposed—took one course of medicine, and in two days was about my business. I had years before been vaccinated. My wife, in waiting upon me, after the usual time, unexpectedly came down with the small pox, and was severely sick until it made its appearance, which was on the fourth day. I gave her a thorough course of medicine each day for five successive days, which alleviated the symptoms and brought out the eruption large and full, from the crown of the head to the soles of the feet. In a day or two after, I gave her one more course, then kept her well fed with Nos. 2 and 3, with an occasional steaming, which would allay the itching and cause her to rest quiet. In two weeks she was about. My two youngest children (the eldest was absent at the time) took the small pox of their mother, but had it so light that they were at play most of the time. I gave them courses and medicine freely, before it was time for them to come down with the disease, which I firmly believe disarmed it of all its terrors. My sister and a lady who boarded with us at the time, were once vaccinated, but both had a touch of the disease.

Here ended the small pox affair. But it presents a mirror in which can be seen the fallacy of vaccination. Nearly all who had had the kine pox previous to their exposure to the small pox, took the disease; and even one who had had the

small pox by inoculation got caught also. It is true, those who had been vaccinated, generally had it in a milder form; but when we take into consideration the evil effects which often arise in consequence of vaccination, the remedy in the end appears to be worse than the disease which it is designed to prevent. I have conversed with a great many who have had the kine pox, and they say they have never been well since, but are all the time afflicted with troublesome humors. This convinces me of the folly of ingrafting one disease into the system to prevent, at some future day, another. The God of nature has provided a remedy for small pox, safe, simple, and efficacious, and Thomsonians are in possession of that remedy. Let them use it.

O. B. LYMAN.

Norwich, (Conn.), March 25, 1841.

NOTICE.—Those persons who have received three or four numbers of the present volume of our paper, will bear in mind that they are responsible for the whole volume. We shall stop no more papers, until the subscriber pays what he already owes. This notice is given on account of papers being returned by subscribers, who have received and kept several numbers of the volume, and now request it discontinued. We can't do it till you pay up. Our first number contained our terms; and had you returned that paper, our acquaintance would have ceased; but as you did not, we shall stick to you till November, "like a chestnut burr to a sheep's back."

FEAR.—There are thousands of men for fear of want, want all their lives; and thousands every day for fear of dying, suffer worse than the pangs of death. The demon fear at all times trembles at impossible events. Why should we grow pale at hideous fictions of our own? We should at all times endeavor to be serene, and masters of ourselves, prepared for what may come.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street.

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Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

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BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

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* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass. Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

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BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.”—SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, MAY 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 12.

ODE TO HEAT.

O wond'rous HEAT,

Grand agent of the great Creator,
Whose universal power pervades
All space, and penetrates all matter;
Expanding, rarifying every part;
Liquid from solid, and from liquid
Æriform producing. These states of
Being owe to thee, thou delegated
Power, their origin. 'T is thou that
Makes creation's garden vegetate.
The seeds of life spring up in form of
Fish, fowl, insect, serpent, reptile, beast;
Or tree, shrub, plant, herb, grass and flower,
With intermediate links, to bind
Each kingdom to the other; causing
Variety unnumbered, and innumerable.
Thy genial influence causes all growth;
Matures and ripens all;—thus crowning
Earth with plenty, happiness, and peace.

But should the great Creator revoke thy
Agency entire, and thy expansive
Power withdraw from this our blooming
Earth for one short year;—Almighty Power!
What desolation, stern, and wild, would
Reign supreme, profound, o'er Earth's domain!
A gen'ral condensation of each part
Would supervene. All gaseous, into
Fluid; all fluid into solid—
Even the very atmosphere of which
We breathe, fixed like a chrystal rock
Congealing, would stratify the earth,
And universal death ensue.
A cold, so cold, as ne'er before had been,
Would bind with chains of frost immovable,
Each element; while a universe of
Worlds were singing the requiem of
A sister world, in solid ice entombed!

MEDICINE.

There is no subject of greater importance than that of medicine, or one that has engaged the attention of mankind less. There is no one who can say, “I am exempt from affliction and disease,” and yet it is rare to find an individual who gives himself the least trouble in reflecting on this important subject. What is life without health? It affords nothing but misery and wretchedness: and yet thousands are groaning under pain and disease who might enjoy the blessings of health if they would think but for themselves. But it appears that prejudice and pride are formidable foes to the march of intellect. A class of men dignified for their pomp, vanity and ignorance, display themselves as doctors, under the pretence of learning and

skill, together with the knowledge of those who have preceded them in the same profession.

We will give a small sample of their boasted knowledge before we proceed further. They have no *active* medicines that are not deadly poisons. They assert that an *active* medicine *must* be a poison! On this supposition they have selected the most deadly agents as medicine, and in order as it were to complete their system, or rather, practice of “death,” they have added as remedial agents such as bleeding, cupping, leeching, blistering, starving, &c., &c., &c.

Medicine is defined by Dr. Thomson, the founder of the Thomsonian system, to be possessed of the property of removing disease without endangering the vital functions of the animal economy. To act as a medicine, then, according to Dr. Thomson's system, an article must be clear of poisonous qualities. Whatever is detrimental to the healthy action of the system is calculated to produce disease and promote death. It is therefore evident that an agent to be a medicine, must be free of poisonous qualities.

Opium is a panacea among the “regular” mineral faculty for lulling pain. But if we reflect on the principle that poison acts, whereby pain is lulled by its use, we must acknowledge it to be one among the most pernicious evils—far worse than alcoholic stimulants. It lulls pain, it is true, by deadening the action of the vital powers. The effects of this deleterious article, when used for a time, is often a source of serious evil, and yet its employment is held out to be indispensable. *Temperance* doctors use more opium than those styled *intemperate*!—How a “learned doctor” can preach up temperance, and at the same time stupify his deluded patients with a poison far more ruinous than brandy, gin or any other kind of ardent spirits, is a matter we are unable to reconcile.

The Thomsonian practitioner practices truly on the temperance principles. He is not obliged to stupify his patients with poison of any kind. He is supplied with vegetables possessing stimulating properties that are calculated to elevate the mind and fortify the senses. What a contrast between the two modes of practice! The one gives poison that deadens the powers of life and motion, and the other a pure vegetable stimuli, (say cayenne pepper,) that raises an action and promotes the powers of life.

The people generally imagine that any thing a doctor prescribes is medicine, and if there should be any doubt as to the correctness of this erroneous belief, all that is necessary to establish the assertion is to refer to Walker, who defines medicine thus: "*any remedy administered by a physician.*"

It is not to be supposed that the prevailing ignorance in regard to medicine arose in any other manner than through carelessness of the people, who in the first instance employed simple remedies, but as the art of healing the sick was made a distinct business by many individuals, the people became careless, and by degrees it became a custom to employ those who made it their profession. Thus we see the few were enabled to establish themselves by making the medic art a subject of high responsibility, and clothing it in language that few besides themselves could understand.

The practice of obstetrics was confined to women entirely, and many physicians of exalted character could not be induced to pursue the practice, alleging it did not belong to their profession. And although this art is very near of being entirely arrested from the female accoucher, yet there are many belonging to the mineral practice who discard all obstetrical cases on the ground that it properly belongs to females. But as any thing that is prescribed by a physician is considered medicine, we are to presume this must be a part of their profession.—[Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

MEDICAL PRACTICE.

The art of curing disease having got into the hands of those who having seen the propriety of mystifying every thing relative thereto, it at length became converted into a "regular" profession, and those who pretended to practice the art without a diploma from some celebrated school of medicine, was stigmatized by the appellation of quack. Every individual in possession of a diploma is obliged to pursue the practice taught in the schools, or suffer himself to be persecuted and stigmatized as a quack.—Will any individual who enjoys the right of speech and the freedom of an American citizen, allow that a body organized under the pretence of promoting the general good of mankind, by the cultivation of medical knowledge, not at once see the ruinous effects of the adopted measures of the "faculty," who do not allow a different practice to be pursued under the penalty of losing a patient, even where it is acknowledged by themselves they could do nothing more, after exhausting all their art of guessing as recorded in their works of "science"?

We will record a fact that was communicated

to us by a friend, whose veracity we have never had occasion to doubt—viz., an intimate acquaintance of his, whose wife had been laying very low for some time, stopped late in the evening and requested him to call and see his wife, as the doctor had pronounced in the afternoon she would not live over 12 o'clock that night.—It appeared the husband had remembered of a case precisely the same as that of his wife, which was cured by a medicine of a simple character. By the advice of his friend he obtained the ingredients and made some of the medicine, which was given to his wife, and to the astonishment of all present it had the desired effect. The doctor came in just before the hour of 12, and uttered with surprise, "She is better! — I have great hopes of her recovery!!!"

On the day following the friend of the husband of the wife called upon the doctor, and communicated to him what had been administered, although contrary to his orders; informing the doctor at the same time that it was not the only case of the kind that he had witnessed the same medicine to cure. The visit to the doctor was made expressly to acquaint him of the articles that composed the medicine that effected the cure, that others might be benefitted by its use.

But what was the doctor's reply? "It is quackery!—There is not such an article in our books;—we cannot employ any article that is not sanctioned by our profession."

Thus you see the effects of legalizing a band of men professing the knowledge of healing the sick. Although he (the doctor) positively acknowledged the patient must die, yet he refused to employ the article, for no other reason than because it was not named in any work of the "profession" belonging to the "regular" practice!

This shows that the life of a patient is but of little consequence, and that the main object to be attained is the power and profit arising thro' the means of keeping the people in total darkness concerning the healing art. And for this purpose they employ an unintelligible jargon to cloak their ignorance.—[Ibid.

SCIENCE—SURGERY.

The true source of happiness is derived from a correct knowledge of things and a life devoted to the best interests of the public at large. An individual who sets himself up as a man of science, and is found wanting in useful knowledge, is of all others to be pitied for his presumption and arrogance. Science implies "certainty grounded on demonstration." Knowledge is science, and whatever art is attained by precepts, or built on principles, may be justly de-

nominated "scientific." But how science can be justly applied to the profession of a mineral doctor, who is obliged to be governed by his own imagination in the administration of poisons, is a mystery to us, unless it is intended to impose on the credulity of mankind. What would constitute a more appropriate name for those who style themselves the "medical faculty," than the following appellation, viz: "Diplomatic guessers in the trade and mystery of administering poisons to cure the sick, especially such as are known to possess the quality of producing disease and death?"

We consider the practice of surgery to be in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, where operations are performed, to be owing entirely to the ignorance of the mineral practitioner.—And we are sorry to see men professing rank and "medical" attainment, endeavoring to encourage a practice little better in our opinion than murder.

If all the deaths that have occurred under the knife were recorded, they would display not only in number, but for inhuman barbarity, all the scenes that have ever been presented to us as having taken place under the most barbarous and uncultivated people that ever disgraced humanity. The savage could not display a greater desire for blood than many of those human butchers are in the habit of doing when an opportunity of the most trifling nature presents itself. It is customary to make a great display on occasions of a surgical character. The operator, previous to performing an operation, has a number of students to attend his visits to the unfortunate victim, and more frequently to attend the operation. We know of a case that recently come under our notice, of a young married lady, who was operated upon for a cancer in the breast. The students witnessed the operation and were no doubt fully persuaded that it resulted in a perfect cure of the patient, owing to the part from whence the whole breast was taken, showing favorable symptoms of healing, and the operator pronouncing the lady well and permitted her to return to her family, who resided in Providence, (R.I.) She had scarcely reached her desired home before her relatives in this city received intelligence that she was worse than before she was operated upon, and that her life was despaired of. Sure enough! But a short time elapsed, and the news of her death arrived!

Before closing, we will state that the above lady visited Dr. Physic for the purpose of obtaining his advice on her case. The doctor told her it was a hopeless one. She told him she had visited others, and they had advised her to have it taken off. Dr. Physic's reply was, "that if she had witnessed as many cases as he had,

she would keep her breast where it was." She did not profit, however, by Dr. Physic's advice, and suffered the consequences when too late.

Young surgeons are eager to display themselves, and are desirous of obtaining an opportunity whereby they may bring themselves into notoriety, but we pity all who are persuaded from the opinions of those who have had every experience in these matters, which Dr. Physic was known to have, being the principal surgeon at one time in this city. Well might he say to her "If she had witnessed as many cases as he had, she would keep her breast where it was." —[Ibid.

SUPERSTITION—MEDICAL.

There is nothing more common than to witness individuals giving their opinion on the Thomsonian system, and expatiating largely on the absurdity of steam, cayenne, lobelia, &c.—Every doctor-ridden individual that we have come in contact, have declared that pepper will produce inflammation, and lobelia and steam are the worst agents to employ in disease. From what source are these opinions derived? Are they derived from experience? No. They are the effusions of those minds who employ not their own faculties, but the dogmas of those who live by professional dignity, and who become raised to power and profit by the reigning ignorance and superstition of those who condemn without knowledge and approve without thinking. A physician obtains credit for the most glaring absurdities, while those who perform a cure by the most reasonable and natural principles, are considered scarcely worth noticing.—A doctor may undertake to cure a cold by the "scientific" treatment of the "regular" practice, viz., bleeding, blistering, purging, starving, &c., and if the patient survives under such treatment, he is pronounced a "skilful man," or an "eminent physician." But he who employs the rational mode, pursued by Dr. Thomson, viz., composition tea, the vapor bath, bitters, and where the cold is obstinate, an emetic of lobelia, with the accompanying requisites, is thought a mere matter of moonshine, however serious the case may have been.

Those who oppose what they have no knowledge of, are among the number who oppose the Thomsonian system. Any case of disease cured by the poison process, presents much difficulty and danger to those who are unacquainted with correct medical principles, and therefore the idea of skill becomes blended with error and confusion. The mineral practice of medicine is said to have been improved by murder. We cannot deny this assertion though it comes from one who distinguished himself as a practitioner

of the old school. What man or woman can doubt but that millions have fallen a sacrifice to bleeding, mercury, arsenic, and other such like agents of a deleterious character employed as remedial agents? A well person is told to guard himself from cold, and a sick person is very often treated on the cold principle. Ice is therefore a remedial agent, and many poor unfortunate creatures are cooled down to their long homes by its use and other agents that are in opposition to the laws of vitality. Nearly all diseases arise from cold, and may in the first instance be easily eradicated from the system by the employment of the Thomsonian remedies, among which the most essential are, lobelia, cayenne pepper, bayberry, &c., together with the use of the vapor bath. We believe it has been satisfactorily proved that all the maladies which flesh is heir to, are curable when timely attended to, by the proper application of the Thomsonian remedies. Can it be said that poisons of the *materia medica* of the mineral practice will cure all diseases if timely administered? No. The most strenuous for the calomel, purging, freezing, bleeding and starving plan will not dare to say that their poisons will cure all disease if timely administered. It is too well established to be denied, that the most trifling ailments are often consigned to the tomb by "scientific" treatment. And those who are versed in the practice know too well to hazard an assertion that cannot be substantiated. Facts must go before assertions, in spite of art or pretences founded on conjecture.—[Ibid.]

BEWARE OF CALOMEL.

I profess to be in heart a philanthropist, and to possess unfeigned desires for the well being of my fellow men. Next to the gospel, I wish the doctrine of medical benevolence to be preached from town to town, through every village, hamlet, borough and city, until every individual catch the tidings, and feel the impression of the good spirit of the Thomsonian system of practice and principles; until a universal dread and abhorrence of poisonous drugs shall seize the world.

My heart bleeds within me, when I reflect upon the abuses and injuries sustained by the use of calomel. Yesterday I was called to see a young victim who was about to be immolated on the mercurial altar. Let us hear the case! A young man of about twenty-five years of age called to see me; he said, he had heard that I sold No. 6, and he wanted to purchase some; I told him I had No. 6, for sale, but wished to be informed what he proposed to do with it. He proceeded to state that his wife was afflicted with "chills and fevers," as he expressed him-

self, and said, that he had heard that No. 6, was a good medicine for that kind of complaint. I questioned him farther till I ascertained his wife was laboring under a severe indisposition, which I informed him was an advanced stage of consumption. He appeared much affected as I pronounced the fact, the color fled from his face and he became pale, being much alarmed on account of her dangerous situation. He requested me to go with him, that I might see her myself. Accordingly I attended. Good God! what a sight! I was melted with pity! My heart sunk within me. I beheld, and shall never forget the scene, a young female reclined on a sofa; her beauty could not be concealed by the desolating power of disease which was rapidly consuming her tender frame. Though she was satisfied that few must be her days, yet she carried an indescribable serenity upon her countenance, that was fascinating to gaze upon. I asked many questions respecting her situation. Her answers were intelligent and cheerful, but frequently interrupted by deep drawn sighs, and a dry hacking, spasmodic cough.

Sometimes by a flash of fever, the native vermillion would mount to her cheek where the roseate glow of health and beauty used to spread their fascinating charms. Suddenly the ghastly deathfulness of her pallid visage would return upon her, the fearful result of the desolating malady that lurked like a secret but determined enemy in her tortured breast. Her cheerfulness, though an index of the native goodness of her disposition, was rather assumed from a sense of propriety, than relished as a matter of enjoyment. By turns deep reflection stole over her busy mind. Her broken speech, melancholy shade of countenance, peculiar melancholy key of voice, and pearly drops that glittered in her eye, all conspired to impress the observer with full conviction that her heart was sad! It is the common fate of those unfortunate beings who have been thrown into such a hapless situation by the abuse of themselves, by the use of calomel, always to be sad!

The cause of this sadness is easy to understand. It is well known to proceed from, hepatic affections induced by calomel. Functional and even organic derangement, are not unfrequently the consequence of pouring down that deadly drug. I was soon satisfied that her system had been put under the influence of mercury. I enquired whether she had been sick previous to her present indisposition—was informed that she had an attack of billious fever!—and now the consumption had seized upon her! But after all, there is not anything astonishing in all this case, because any body who has had a tour of "billious fever," will either die, or, if he should survive, will endure a miserable exist-

ence the remainder of his days, whenever subjected to the mineral practice. What is most astonishing of all, is the blind infatuation and stubbornness, with which so many will hold fast to their old despiseable prejudices, in opposition to innumerable facts, and seem to banish every particle of reason from their minds.

Well courteous reader, since we have entered on this hackneyed theme, suffer a friend to pursue the enquiry to some point that is tangible. Who will solve this simple question, what is a billious fever? [A gold watch is made of gold, of course a billious fever, must be a fever made of bile.] What, a fever made of bile? Or, suppose we say, a fever caused by too much bile! What a misery producing article this bile must be! O malicious bile! to cause a fever! But, how? By what means? Where is the bile formed, or from whence is it furnished? Why, surely, from the liver. What is its quality? Is it a soapy substance designed to cleanse the first passages, facilitate digestion, and promote the alvine discharges. Will a liver in a beautiful situation under the operation of a healthful action, secrete an useless vitiated quantity of bile? Admitting it possible, the idea involves a contradiction. If an extraordinary quantity of bile of a bad quality, should at any time, be secreted, that bile, so secreted is not the cause of disease, but it is the diseased state of the liver that has induced the difficulty. But a sound tree naturally produces good fruit. A sound organ left to the exercise of its natural functions cannot produce disease. How whimsical for wise heads to talk about billious fever! It would be equally appropriate to talk about bone fever. Yes, far more rational, because there are various forms of disease, occasioned by some parts becoming ossified, particularly cartilages, arteries, &c. These events are known sometimes to cause death! But when did bile kill any man? How long would a man live without the usual quantity of bile? Bile in itself is harmless? and indispensable for the preservation of the functional operations of life. Yet the learned faculty, full of the mystery of their own wise folly, must have a "bile fever." It is always dangerous, often fatal, and never without leaving a direful train of relics behind, which are worse than death.

We are not now speaking of rare and unusual events, but of events of common occurrence. Thousands are thus sacrificed at the shrine of popular delusion. Who is there now living, however small his experience and observation may have been, that has not noticed something of the prevalence of those calamitous circumstances. Thousands can give a more melancholy account of the barbarous effects of calomel than anything contained in the statement I have given.

Last spring there was a man came to my house where I now reside, whose wan countenance and general appearance gave striking intimations of his being a child of misfortune, plunged in depths of abject poverty.

He was no impostor. His case was well and extensively known. One of the most talented of the faculty in this place had attended in his family as related below. The man handed me a certificate having about a hundred signatures to it. The reader will understand this man, was reduced to beggary. The cause of his ruin was briefly stated in the petition or brief request, in which he solicited public charity. We will give his story in substance agreeably to the best of our recollection. Mrs. H. had the misfortune to be taken sick, about twenty years ago. From that period she had been confined to her bed. Mr. H. had spent all his property in paying doctor's bills and other incidental charges. He had to devote his time to a constant attendance on her, himself of course was deprived of the opportunity of earning a livelihood for himself and family by the efforts of personal industry. Now old age had overtaken him, and from this complication of afflictive circumstances he was compelled to beg his support from door to door.

Curiosity led me to enquire into the cause of the malady of this unfortunate woman. It was with much reluctance the husband could be persuaded to give me a full and correct history; for said he, "Dr. H. of this place attended on her. He is one of my best friends—I should be unwilling to have any blame attached to him. He did the best he could for her, to save her if possible." However, he proceeded with his narrative, stating that, "twenty-two years ago she was taken down with 'fever and ague,' the fever turned to be billious, after she had been salivated severely!" Take notice, these were his own words. "She was down with her complaint for several months, in the course of which time, she was repeatedly severely salivated. About two months after, she was accounted of as one recovered from the fever, her lower limbs ulcerated and discharged a great quantity of matter, and several pieces of bone exfoliated and came out of her legs—these healed—the sores broke out again—more bone sloughed or scaled off—the doctor's were again called in—she was again salivated and kept under the influence of mercury for six months, by the skilful attendance of Dr. H. of this place. We understand another was called in who kept her in the same situation for two months longer; but the ulcers got worse, many more broke out, and now her body is completely covered with scars and sores, and many places have been frequently opened. She is in such misery that life has become an intolerable burthen. To palliate her

extreme distress, she makes constant use of opium! If she does not obtain her regular dose she gets deranged and quite distracted.

Here, my friends, you have the picture before you—an imperfect sketch is all I am able to draw. Great God! TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF CONTINUAL, UNCEASING PAIN! THE HAPPINESS OF A WHOLE FAMILY DESTROYED AND ALL REDUCED TO BEGGARY!—All this has happened to satisfy the foolish imagination of a stupid learned quack, to support his reputation in keeping up the deceptive idea of the existence of a disease, that never had any real being, only in the disordered imagination of learned ignorance! In the brains of a science-bewildered quack. Reflect a-moment—what were the means resorted to through this long and perilous season, and how was all this mischief produced? Will you candid reader, treasure the fact in your recollection, that it was ☞ Calomel, ☞ administered by a learned and regular physician, that has reduced one of the fair daughters of our land, with all her family to poverty and wretchedness? Need I add any comments or make any additional remarks to impress the sorrowful disgusting tale more deeply on any honest mind? Only let me entreat you to remember, that what has happened in this case is nothing very uncommon in the routine of events attendant on the calomel practice. When a patient has been long subjected to the power of calomel, if he happen to survive the mercurial storm in its first blow, he is still liable to all the direful consequences that attended the case just recited, or other effects equally troublesome and distressing. But a few days ago, an amiable lady of the first rank in this metropolis was carried to her grave, who was brought to her long home by the same means, after several tedious years of mercurial sufferings.

About a month ago, I was called to see a man who labors under dyspepsia. He had been confined to his room through all the preceding winter—he has been incapable of attending to his business for several years. All this while he has been attended by two physicians in whom he has placed the most implicit confidence; but finding that they were not affording him any relief, he was determined to abandon their practice; accordingly he called on me for advice; I called, and directly ascertained that the patient had been in the habit of using calomel very liberally, with a view to keep his bowels open and regular, and to cleanse his stomach and the whole intestinal track. He had continued to abuse himself in this absurd manner, until the digestive organs were completely impaired, and the functional powers of the liver deranged, or dearly destroyed. By sympathetic associations the whole animal machine became disordered—

in fact body and mind were both deeply affected. He labored under a partial mental derangement, which has occasioned infinite distress to himself and family. After advising with me, this calomel victim determined to discharge his mercurializing doctors, and try a new way of curing himself, for this good substantial reason. Because he was getting sensibly and daily worse by the treatment he had been pursuing for six years. But after all, through the persuasion of his friends and the mineral doctors, with all these discouragements staring him in the face, he was deterred from his good resolution. The doctors have pronounced him “a cure;” assuring him at the same time, that steam would “kill him.” (Alas! for the poisonous nature of warm water, especially the vapor or steam rising from it!) From the time he abandoned his resolution and commenced with the mineral faculty again, instead of mending, he has been growing worse and worse. We may see, (should he survive the operation of medicine,) this man doomed to years of suffering, and, eventually, an untimely grave, all occasioned by his beloved calomel, to which he still remains a practical friend and advocate. He is under such a strong mercurial delusion, that he asserts and contends, that this very poison which drags him, by a cruel road, to a lingering death, has thus far saved his life; for now, such is the power of prejudice and habit, he will tell you, “When I had the last attack of ‘BILLIOUS FEVER,’ ☞ nothing saved me but Calomel.” ☞ Oh, the madness, folly and strong delusion! “I had rather fight a regiment of fiends, than to combat a single prejudice,” observes a learned writer. The propriety of his assertion is felt with peculiar force by reference to the case of this unfortunate and deluded man, when six years of sufferings could not teach him to abandon a single prejudice, and that of a most unreasonable nature. Alas for the influence of prejudice, the power of fashion, and consummate folly of an unthinking world!

D. F. N.

Tennessee, April, 1833.

☞ The foregoing paper we do not recollect to have seen till of late, and we now copy it from the “*Southern Botanical-Medical Journal*,” published at Forsyth, Ga.—a very neatly printed periodical—where it is credited to the “Recorder,” we presume the Columbus, (O.) Recorder, is the paper in which it originally appeared. The writer has plainly shown the rascality with which the poison fraternity reap an abundant harvest in their dealings with their fellow-men, who pay respect to their learning. The paper was written some

years ago, but it is so well calculated to open the eyes of the community to the dangerous tendency of calomel, that we conceive it highly valuable, and calculated to do as much good now as when it first appeared.

THE MARINER'S SONG.

A wet sheet and a flowing sea,
A wind that follows fast,
And fills the white and rustling sail,
And bends the gallant mast;
And bends the gallant mast, my boys,
While, like the eagle free,
Away our good ship flies, and leaves
Columbia on the lee.

"O for a soft and gentle wind!"
I heard a fair one cry;
But give to me the roaring breeze,
And white waves dashing high;
And white waves dashing high, my boys,
Our good ship tight and free—
The world of waters is our home,
And merry men are we.

There's tempest in yon horned moon,
And lightning in yon cloud;
And hark the music, mariners,
The wind is piping loud;
The wind is piping loud, my boys,
The lightning flashes free,
While the hollow oak our palace is,
Our heritage the sea.

THE EFFECT OF PROFESSIONAL JEALOUSY.

Among the many men sojourning in this city at present, either for the purpose of business or pleasure, are two extractors of *corniculate particles*, vulgarly called "corn doctors." From the census of the inhabitants of the United States recently taken, it does not appear that these corn shavers are very numerous as a body, and yet judging from the conduct of the two whom we are speaking of, there seems to be as great a spirit of rivalry amongst them as exists among barbers or bread-shavers, a much more important and numerous class. We are ignorant of the patronymic of either of the parties; we only know that one of them is a native of the universal Yankee nation, and that the other claims to be the countrymen of Admiral Von Tromp. Both of them are of diminutive stature; but there are no bounds to their own ideas of their respective professional excellence. The Dutch doctor was in the bar-room of one of our hotels yesterday, evidently under the influence of the ardent, lecturing a large crowd on the beauties

of his system. A wag, who was ripe for "a rig," drew his likeness on a sheet of paper, representing him with the bottle to his mouth, and wrote underneath it—

A Corned Doctor Corned.

The doctor knew nor heeded it not, but went on expatiating on the scientific manner in which he excavated those small, osseous substances so annoying, particularly in this wet weather, to both ladies and gentlemen, and was proceeding, apparently to his own gratification, and amusement of the bystanders, when the Yankee corn doctor dropped in, and he too had a drop in his eye. He could see, however, how the game was going, and thought he would join in. He commenced singing—

"Corn rigs and barley rigs,
Corn rigs grow bony."

"Wat dosh you mean by dat?" said the Dutch doctor turning round.

"Just that you're a humbug, and aint no corn doctor, no how you can fix it," said the Yankee.

"Vhel, vhat ish you bray?" said the Dutchman.

"I'm the genuine corn-excavator and toe-manipulator, and anti-imposition candidate for every job in that ere line in this here city—that's what I am, old pickled cabbage," replied the Yankee.

"Vhat pe you shystem?" asked the Dutchman. "Does you pare and draw?"

"Pare, pare," said the Yankee; "why you tarnal grumphead, you—you're just as ignorant as Ichabod Doolittle's sorrel mare, and she had sich an aversion to larnin' that she wouldn't carry the children to school in sleighin' time, no how—Do I pare! No, you ignoramus, I draw out the corn by the application of my unrivalled, magnetic, high-pressure plaster—that's my system, you animated pot of pickles. Do you think," added the Yankee, "I would cut into a man's toe as if I was digging a Dutch dyke, or exploring a Mexican mine. Why, if that's your system, you ought to be indicted under the maiming act."

"Shentlemens," said the Dutch doctor, who evidently thought he was no match for the Yankee, in eloquence at least, "Shentlemen, I gives proofs of my professional skill—I toes n't talk none much," and he opened a small box in which was deposited numerous small substances, which he averred he had extracted from individuals in every station of life, from the President of the United States down to plantation negroes!

"O, there's no mistake about that," said the by-standers; "there's the proof of the pudding, sure enough."

"Gentlemen," said the Yankee doctor, "hold

on for one minnit," and he pulled a tin case out of his pocket which was chuck full of corns, every one of them, he assured those present, were extracted by his genuine, unrivalled, magnetic, high-pressure plaster.

Now the tide of triumph turned in favor of the Yankee, and the company were about to dub him the legitimate member of the corn-cutting faculty when the Dutch doctor, after viewing closely the contents of the Yankee's tin box, cried out, "Yankee trick—Yankee trick. Dunder, dem ish no corns, but tops of geoses' toses cut up shmall like meat for sassengers!"

This insinuation was too much for the Yankee; he made a blow at the Dutchman, which some one present warded off. Cards were finally exchanged, and the whole affair is a "pretty one as it stands," and in a fair way for a duel. It will no doubt be a cutting business; but be it as it may, we have given the particulars in *toe toe* as they were related to us.

[Western paper.]

CHILDHOOD.—How often is the pleasant season of childhood turned into a probation of unnatural mental toil, by ambitious parents, who forget the happiness of their children in their vain desire to see them forward in acquiring knowledge, that they may hear them admired by others. This we need scarcely say is all wrong; but many of the natural guardians of children seem to require line upon line and precept upon precept, before they will be brought to right reflection. A correspondent of the New York Mirror, among other good remarks on this subject, has the following:

"Shortly after the children are weaned, they commence educating them. While the brain is yet in a soft, pulpy state, they load it with heavy facts and hard names, to its serious detriment during the remainder of its mundane existence. The ancient Grecian commenced with carrying a calf upon his back a few hours every day, so when the calf gradually grew into a bullock, he carried the bullock with as much ease as he had done the calf. This is now the education principle. They lay a few leaves of Cyclopædia or Encyclopedia on a child's tender brain, and to keep adding thereunto day by day expecting that when he is a man, he will carry the thirty volumes with perfect ease without considering that in the attempt they may crush all sap and freshness out of their brain, rendering it as flat as a pancake, and 'dry as the remainder biscuit.'

"Now, is this wholesome?—is it natural?—Is it fair, is it humane, that a child should be cheated out of its childhood, and sent to learn the 'use of the globes,' before it has learnt to

play at marbles? Or is it to be expected that this early forcing and hot-bed system can produce as healthy plants as if they had been allowed to grow in the free and open sunshine? Oh! in place of sending a child to school at three or four years, let it enjoy three more years of ignorance. Curb not its young freedom; abridge not its first holidays; cage not the pretty bird too soon! Change not the free air of heaven for the pent-up atmosphere of the "seminary;" the gentle murmur of the winds for the dull hum of the prison-house. We were children ourselves once. Let us have a fellow-feeling for the young rogues. Let kind dame Nature nurse them a few days longer. There will be fewer ricketty limbs and ricketty intellects."

ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE FOOD.—That animal food renders man strong and courageous is fully disproved by the inhabitants of northern Europe and Asia, the Laplanders, Samoides, Ostiacs, Tungoses, Burats and Kamtschadales, as well as by the Esquimaux in the northern, and the natives of Terra del Fuego in the southern extremity of America, which are the smallest, weakest, and least brave people of the globe, although they live almost entirely on flesh, and that often raw. Vegetable diet is as little connected with weakness and cowardice as that of animals matter is with physical force and courage. That men can be perfectly nourished, and their bodily and mental capabilities be fully developed in any climate by a diet purely vegetable, admits of abundant proof from experience. In the periods of their greatest simplicity, manliness and bravery, the Greeks and Romans appear to have lived almost entirely on plain vegetable preparations. Indifferent bread-fruits and other produce of the earth, is the chief nourishment of the modern Italians, and of the mass of the population in most countries of Europe: of those more immediately known to ourselves, the Irish and Scotch may be mentioned, who are certainly not rendered weaker than their English fellow-subjects by freer use of vegetable aliment. The negroes, whose great bodily powers are well known, feed chiefly on vegetable substances; and the same is the case with the South Sea Islanders, whose agility and strength were so great, that the stoutest English sailors had no chance with them in wrestling and boxing.—[Lawrence on the Natural History of Man.]

"Pa, is dogs got wings?" "Wings! no, child—do n't you know better than that?" "Why, thunder and scissors, Pa, this ere newspaper says that a big dog FLEW at a man and bit him—so I guess dogs is got wings, too."

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, MAY 1, 1841.

CELEBRATION OF DR. THOMSON'S BIRTH-DAY.

The 9th day of last February, being the seventy-second anniversary of the birth-day of SAMUEL THOMSON, the great medical reformer, was celebrated at Forsyth, Ga., in a manner worthy of the occasion, and highly honorable to the great man, in remembrance of those lasting benefits he has conferred on society, for which the celebration was got up. We do not know that the day has ever before been publicly noticed, but think that the time is coming in which it will be generally remembered and publicly commemorated.

In retrospection we view this child of genius born in obscurity—in a remote forest cottage, and there as he increases in years we see the peculiar faculties with which nature had endowed him, begin to expand. His innate peculiarity leads him to examine the plants, herbs, shrubs and trees with which he is surrounded, and thus enables him to discover their properties and uses. He becomes the head of a family; and as those committed to his care are stricken down with the hand of disease, and the skill of a medical attendant is exhausted in vain for their relief, he is compelled to heal them in his own way. It would seem that nature had peculiarly intended him as the agent by which to bring about a system of medicine in accordance with her laws. For if he employs any other person they but make the patient worse, and his whole mind, in spite of himself, is engaged in the task of bringing about the cure which he had paid another to effect. He is thus compelled to relinquish his former occupations and attend to nursing the sick, watching their maladies, and seeking out a remedy for them. Success attends his efforts and the child of abstruse rank and humble birth is soon heard of beyond his native fields.

The wonderful cures of SAMUEL THOMSON are listened to with rapture by invalids in thickly settled towns and villages, and as they are sure that their family physician has no healing balm for them, in a transport of joy they send for the steam doctor. He comes, and cures them. Fears are banished from their bosoms and happiness again is in store for them. But the reverse is the fate of THOMSON.

The medical fraternity whom he has thrown into the shade are now on the alert for him. They watch him on all his ways in hopes to find some action by which to condemn him; and at last he is accused of, and tried for murder. Misrepresentation most foul is used to put down the mighty master spirit with which they know they have not the ability to contend; and although the malignant and envenomed tongue of the slanderer is used as a witness against him, and friends grow slack and few, yet his innocence is proclaimed, and his guilty calumniators and revilers hide their faces with shame; they see themselves abased and their intended victim highly and honorably exalted.

Not to be subdued by the enmity or malignity of his persecutors, nor the falling off of friends, he marks out his intended course and steadily pursues it. As his practice becomes more generally known his usefulness is more fully appreciated and a vast number of people acknowledge him to be their benefactor and the preserver of their lives. He has now brought his system to a degree of perfection and respectability; it is embraced by thousands and on the fruits of this his hard earned fame he now is passing his remaining days in a full enjoyment of that peace which a knowledge of having been useful in his day and generation, cannot fail to produce.

Now in the winter of his life he has the consolation of seeing his labors crowned with blessings. He can contemplate the advantages which future generations will reap from his labors, with pleasure; and as he receives without ostentation the praises which grateful hearts offer to him, he can but feel that the ingratitude of those for whom he has bestowed more than a father's care, has a tendency to cast some shadows on his few remaining years. But, while his friends can only look on such individuals with pity, they must feel assured that they will have their reward.

We are glad to see that the birth-day of SAMUEL THOMSON, is likely to be held in grateful remembrance. Although we fear that the study of the principles which he has labored so strenuously to place in the hands of the people, may become too much invested in the hands of a few, through

the influence of colleges, yet it gives us pleasure to hear the sentiments of honest men—men of high standing and ability according to him that praise which is so justly due to him. And it give us the more pleasure at this time, because there are certain mean people about us, who must, by these just praises feel severely rebuked. When the wife and husband who have been fed by his bounty, can so far forget the gratitude due to a benefactor, as to pay no respect to his name or age, and for no other reason than because they no longer feed from his well stored cribs, surely the tribute of respect paid by better people, must at least, cause them a pang of regret, as they remember their ingratitude. But when they condescend to sink themselves to the meanness of slandering their benefactor, on that day which of all others in the week they pretend should be kept holy, and at the table too, which had it not been for the knowledge which they obtained from him, they would not have the means they now possess of spreading and presiding over it, we should think, that they would regret their own lowness. The table talk of the wife should be at all times chaste as the driven snow; and her husband should so demean himself, when presiding at the board, that his enemies, if any he have, might seek in vain a sentence on which to found an accusation. Sad indeed, must be the condition of those who entertain their guests with slandering their neighbors, in the hope of rising by their downfall.

We give below extracts of some of the speeches made at the celebration, as we think they must be read with pleasure by our patrons.

Extract of a speech made by Prof. Quinn, who acted as Chairman on the occasion.

“The day which we have assembled to Celebrate, 9th of February, 1769, gave birth to a man, the energies of whose genius has given existence to a System of Medical practice, which constitutes one of the grandest eras, that has ever graced the annals of Medical science—the Birth-day of Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, the founder of that system of practice which is the only one that is entitled to the high epithet of Medical science among the many which are and have been extant in the whole universe—the Thomsonian system: a system which is now working a revolution which has urged its way, and pushed its triumphs to an extent altogether unparalleled in the history of the world, during the ‘the six thousand years which near have fled.’

Few discoverers or improvers have lived to see the blessings and benefits of their labors extend far beyond their domiciliary circle; the enemies of reform and improvement have too frequently succeeded in beating back into the dark such useful discoveries, until those benefactors of mankind

have gone to ‘that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveller returns.’ And in proportion to the greatness of the blessings, resulting from those discoveries, has been the vehemence with which they have been assailed, from the death of a bleeding Abel, a proscribed Hervey, and a mocked Fulton, to a persecuted, oppressed and incarcerated Samuel Thomson, whose birth-day we now celebrate, and of whose system we are the fearless and uncompromising advocates. But Samuel Thomson, has lived to see no less than four millions of his own countrymen enjoy the blessings of his discovery, and that his system, disdaining to be bounded by the boundary lines of his own country, has made ‘the wooden walls of Great Britain its medium in crossing the Atlantic, and has found its way into the very palace of England, and into the bosom and heart of the Queen, with whom it is our privilege to mingle Thomsonian emotions. And not willing to remain within the eight miles boundry of the city of London, like some tremendous cloud, pregnant with electricity, it burst its way toward other countries also, and has crossed the mighty and massy walls of China—and the Thomsonian call and cry is, raised for us to send Thomsonian physicians to that mighty and vast empire—and to see his system make three-quarters of the medical world to tremble at its approach, and mighty march, but their inhabitants hail with joy the day of its advent into the world, and its entrance into their own regions.’ And while we celebrate, the 9th-day of February, as the birth-day of Dr. Thomson, notwithstanding the lapse of time that has intervened betwixt the 9th of February, 1769, and the 9th of February, 1841, we can say, that the hero of the proud occasion yet lives. Long live Samuel Thomson!

And what other mere man was ever blessed with life to see the fruits of their labors ripen so fast, and the leaves of the trees heal so many nations, and enlist such a weight of talent as have those of Dr. Samuel Thomson? talent that now shakes a world.

And, gentlemen of the Class, it affords me ineffable pleasure, on the present occasion to recognize you as constituting a part of that weight of talent, which is destined to form an invincible phalanx, in the ranks of Medical science.”

Extract of a speech made by Prof. L. Bankston.

“Gentlemen—We have assembled on this occasion, to celebrate the day which gave birth to one of the greatest Medical philanthropists that ever lived, a man whose fame has not only reached the fireside of millions of American citizens, but whose researches and labors, have snatched thousands from the grave.

Gentlemen now sit around this festive board, who consider themselves indebted to the immortal Thomson for their present existence, and shall we not say that the day which gave birth to such a mind, is worthy of an annual celebration? Yes, by every American citizen!

Contemplate this great and good man, in his boy-hood! See him then experimenting upon his playful associates, with his then unknown Lobelia Inflata. View him from that period through his youthful career; poverty, surrounding his hovel,

denied him the benefits of even a moderate education.

Manhood arrives, and still we find him prosecuting his agricultural pursuits. View him again, while reaping in the harvest-field, administering to his co-laborer, as matter of amusement, this unknown herb.

But again view him, contemplating upon the condition of six of his sick family whose cases had been given over as hopeless, by the attending faculty. At this moment, gentlemen, just contemplate that tremendous and mighty embryonic mind, which has and shall revolutionize the Medical theories of nations bursting loose the shackles of mental bondage, and at that moment giving birth to Medical truths and principles which has shook the dogmas of preceding ages, and upon which is erecting yonder Monument, which shall tell to future generations of the philanthropy of Southerners, in the erection and support of the first Botanical-Medical edifice erected in the world.

View him now, discarding his former impliments of husbandry, for the noble purpose of promulgating to the world the Medical truths of his own discovery. He now develops to his countrymen, the before unknown, inestimable virtues of his Thomsonia Emetica in the removal of all forms of disease. Do you enquire how this was received? go to the filthy and loathsome dungeon of Newburyport jail, and hear the echo's responding, shame, shame! Would that the deed could be erased from the annals of history! Or, go to the records of the special court, at Salem, Massachusetts, in 1809, and witness the perjury of a like TRIO, which is still endeavoring to sink us to obscurity.

But, gentleman, again view him, UNAIDED, surmounting the malignity of his persecutors and unfurling his banners of Medical freedom and knowledge, and unwilling to stop short of the highest pinnacle of Medical fame, he advanced, step by step, until he reached the summit, and there planted those immutable principles which shall ever point to the path of health, which shall guide the Medical practitioner safely through the dark and dismal ravages of disease."

Extract of a speech made by George J. Cook.

"Gentlemen—We have assembled on this occasion, not for the purpose of commemorating events recorded on the page of history, the annual return of which causes our bosoms, as Americans, to swell with patriotic fire, but in honor of an individual, who, as a Medical Reformer, deserves to occupy the highest niche in the Temple of Fame.

In all ages of the world, there have lived men who have confined themselves to the Herculean work of revising and perfecting the science of Medicine—men who have stood, as it were, at the helm of the ship of life, for the purpose of steering it clear of the many dangers by which it is beset, in its passage down the stream of Time, towards the ocean of Eternity. The individuals who have successively occupied this station, have been styled, in the age in which they lived, Philanthropists; as men having no other object in view but the good of their fellow-men. A life of such apparent self denial could not

fail to receive its just reward; consequently, we see successive generations bowing the knee of gratitude to their respective gods of Medicine, as they are pleased to term them, and worshipping them as men endowed from on high. Not only did the ancients honor them while living, but even after they had "shuffled off this mortal coil," and "been numbered with the mighty dead," they erected Temples, in which their statues were placed, and to which they were accustomed to resort, whenever they became diseased, for the purpose of obtaining relief.

In accordance, then, with this ancient custom, we as followers of Dr. Thomson, have convened this night in honor of the day which gave him birth; a day ever memorable in the annals of Thomsonism, and which will be remembered as long the system of Medicine of which he is the founder, shall remain extant above the waves of time.

When we remember the obscurity from which Dr. Thomson has arisen, his seeming ignorance of every thing calculated to enable him to elevate himself to even a level with the mass of mankind, and behold the station he now occupies, we feel disposed to award to him a mind and spirit superior to that of any other man who has ever lived. Who, I would ask, occupying the humble station which he did, at the same time he entered the field of Medical Reform, would have dared, in the face of such tremendous opposition, to have proclaimed his system to the world; and who, after it had been announced could have sustained and borne it on triumphantly, amidst the hottest persecutions which its opposers could invent? Surely none but a Thomson could have planted such a standard of Medical revolution, and fought so valiantly under its folds. Behold him cast into prison, arraigned before the bar of his country, and maliciously tried for murder!—Does he repine at his fate? No! but relying on his conscious innocence, he bids his tormentors defiance and is ultimately honorably acquitted. Through many trying scenes has he been called to pass, but ever bearing in his hand the bloodless banner of Thomsonism, he has, like the faithful of old, come off more than conqueror; and is this night, although the frosts of seventy-two winters have whitened his head, a living monument of the life-preserving properties of his own Materia-Medica—whilst others, occupying similar stations in other modes of practice, have long since slumbered beneath the clods of the valley.

It is useless, gentlemen, for me to say more: much has already been said, and much more yet remains to be told, of this truly great man. But I forbear.—I feel my inability to do him justice. The benefits and blessing which he has bequeathed to mankind are sufficient to secure him a monument as imperishable as the pillars of creation; and, although no martial parade, or the thundering of artillery have this day proclaimed a nation's gratitude, yet in the hearts of the few who have assembled this night is to be found an adoration which equals, if not surpasses, the more shallow acclamations of the multitude. The present generation may perhaps pass away ere the blessings of the Thomsonian system shall become fully known, and their benefits experienced by the people at large, but posterity, I feel assured, will do ample justice to the memory of its illustrious founder: when other names shall have been forgotten, that of SAMUEL THOMSON shall remain

bright as a sun-beam, and his medical principles shall stand firm and unmoved, "till Time's last whirl-wind shakes the vaulted skies."

REGULAR TOASTS.

1. *Dr. Thomson*—The man of a thousand years.
2. No. 1. *Lobelia*—The Sampson of our *Materia Medica*, a powerful agent in the removal of all forms of diseases : may it be placed in the hands of every son of mortality.
3. No. 2, *Cayenne*—A permanent stimulant, and admissable in all forms of disease : 'The second best article in our *Materia Medica*.
4. No. 3, *Astringents*—Without this class of Medicines there would be missing one link in the chain of Thomsonian perfection.
5. No. 4—Taken from the flora of North America, prepared and used by Thomsonians. A very certain restorer of strength, and can not be dispensed with by Botanic practitioners.
6. No. 5—A cordial that all may drink with pleasure and advantage.
7. No. 6—Now, one of the most popular Medicines in the world : May the whole list of our Medicines follow in its train.
8. No. 7, *Nervine and Composition*—'The super-memeraries—first rate articles for the Languid and Nerveous : The latter is in universal demand.

The following are some of the volunteer toasts offered on the occasion :—

By Jesse R. Ray. *Dr. Samuel Thomson*—the hero of the day. Notwithstanding he has been incarcerated in the walls of a dungeon, and loaded with pad-locks and log-chains, and all the opprobrious epithets that the wicked and malicious hearts of his opposers could invent, he yet lives to see his system extended to almost every quarter of the globe and embraced by all who give it an impartial trial.

By Alfred B. Moore. *Thomsonism*—More highly appreciated and widely diversified than any other *ism* of its age. "The stone that is rolling can gather no moss."

By John Watson. *The vegetable kingdom*—The only source from whence Medical agents should be derived.

By Offa L. Shivers. *Samuel Thomson, his six numbers and the steam bath*.—Xerxes with his millions gilded with terror could not redeem Greece ; Bonaparte, with his thousands incased in steel attempted the subjugation of Europe and failed ; but our commander, with seven sub-ordinates, clad in homespun has convulsed the world.

By J. W. Emfinger. *Gen. Samuel Thomson*.—He alone commands a larger army than any man since Artaxerxes, and thousands are daily flocking to his standard.

By James Drewry. *Dr. Thomson*.—His name will be his monument.

Gen. L. L. Griffin of Macon, Ga. not being able to attend the celebration, forwarded to the Chairman, the following sentiment which was read and heartily responded to :—

Doct. Thomson.—A superior man, worthy of the honors intended for him on the occasion, the human family will do him honor in ages to come.


SMALL POX, MEASLES, &c.

These two forms of diseases are now somewhat prevalent in this city, and in a number of instances cases of both kinds have terminated fatally. This, we conceive to be the effect of the treatment which the patient received, rather than that of the disease. For we have heard of no deaths occurring when treated with Thomsonian medicine.

That more misery is caused by a fear of taking the small pox than is really experienced from the disease we are strongly induced to believe from facts which have lately come under our own observation, although it is one of the worst of maladies. A lad of our acquaintance—son of a poor widow—was attacked with small pox a few weeks ago ; soon as it was known to be small pox, the acquaintances of the family, instead of rendering their aid at this time of need deserted the widow in her affliction, making her still heavy burden more grievous to be borne. A specimen truly of most of this world's friendship. 'This was a severe case ; but by the constant and unwearied care of a tender mother, the boy is now out of danger.

The physician who attended was one of the faculty, but in this case, he fortunately gave but little medicine (*poison*.) None others of the family have as yet been sick, and as the time has expired in which it would have made them so, if they had taken it, (as the doctors say) it is probable they will escape it. The mother who was over her child continually, ascribes as the reason of their not being sick, to a free use which she made of Nos. 3, and 4, which a Thomsonian gave her for that purpose. We have known numbers escape the disease, when attending the sick, by the same course. The boy is still quite low, which we ascribe to the medicine which was given him.

Parents, if your children are sick, no matter what the disease may be called, keep the doctor away from them ; or if you have one insist on his giving nothing without you know its nature and the effects it will be likely to produce. Then, if your children are injured by the doctor's medicine you must take some of the blame on yourselves.

 We have received a number of valuable communications from correspondents since our last number was published, which we shall lay before our readers as soon as we have room. We return them our thanks, and hope they will continue their favors.

Lying is a hateful and accursed vice. We have no other tie upon another, but our word.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Thomsonian Manual.

MR. EDITOR:—Finding, from unavoidable circumstances, that I shall not be able to fulfil my agreement, hereafter, of furnishing you with the report of a case for each number of your paper, I have deemed it expedient to pass over three or four years, and report some cases of a more recent date than any of my former.

Respectfully yours.

Boston, April 20, 1841.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A THOMSONIAN.—No. VIII.

In the month of August, 1840, Mrs. M. De Rance, of New York, sister to my wife, came to my house with her husband, with the intention of spending a week, thinking that a change of air, or a passage by water, might perhaps prove beneficial to her health, which had been on a decline for five or six months. She contracted a sever cold sometime during the month of April previous, which terminated in a distressing cough; severe pain about the region of the lungs, loss of appetite and great debility. Her friends considered her to have the consumption, and their fears were confirmed by an opinion expressed by the physician she consulted, who told her if she was not speedily relieved she would be out of the reach of medicine.

After being *blistered*, &c. &c., without benefit, and having tried numerous *specifics*, recommended in such cases, and still no favorable result, she was induced by some friend to apply to a certain "*Golden Humbug*" of that city of *quackery*, who told her—after sounding her lungs and informing her that when she spoke the voice came out of the *shoulder* instead of the mouth—that she had the consumption, but he could cure her. He gave her some pills to take, and very soon her mouth became sore, which he said was occasioned by cold and not by the medicine; but he changed the treatment at that time, by substituting the "*golden pills*," which she continued to take until she came to my house. At first, she thought these golden pills were doing her some good; but after two or three month's trial, she was no better than when she commenced taking them: and she *only* had to pay *ten dollars* a box for the pills!

At the time she came to my house, she was very much distressed with cough, pain and soreness of the lungs, shortness of breath, irregularity of appetite, and great exhaustion of strength after the least exercise. She could not walk quarter of a

mile without having to go immediately to bed on her return, and most likely be unable to sit up the next day. She took no more of her *golden pills* after she came to my house, but commenced taking composition and spiced-bitters, which relieved her in many respects. She had never used a particle of Thomsonian medicine before, but was so sensible of the good effect that these simple remedies had on her, that she consented to remain with us a few weeks and test the virtues of *medicine*, having taken sufficient of *poison* and *quackery* to satisfy herself that nothing of the kind would benefit her. She took composition and bitters for the space of a week, at which time her husband was obliged to return home on account of business, leaving her with instructions to go to Doct. Thomson's Infirmary as soon as I thought proper.

The next day after he left I told her she had better go and take a course of medicine; but now, all the stories she had ever heard about "*poisoning with lobelia*," "*burning up with cayenne*," and "*steaming to death*," haunted her imagination, and she said she had rather take the *first* course at my house; for if it *killed* her, she did not want to die among strangers. My only hesitation was the want of a proper steam-box; but on examining our wash-boiler, which was set in a little recess at the side of the fire-place, I found by covering it with a board, and leaving a little space at one side for the steam to rise, it would answer the purpose very well, by putting a blanket up in front.

So we immediately commenced operations, our steam-box worked to a charm, and a thorough course of medicine was administered, which operated well, did not distress her in the least, and before night she was up and felt bright. The next morning she told us that she had not slept scarcely any through the night, on account of the severe pain she experienced from her knees down. I told her it was merely the *gold* that she had taken, settling into her feet, which another course would wholly remove.

There was little if any alteration in her after the first course, except that her appetite was more regular. Five days after, I told her it was time for her to take the second course. She then said that she saw no necessity of going to the Infirmary, and preferred taking all the medicine she had to take, at our house; and should consider me her physician in future. So I could do no less than to acquiesce. She took the second course, which operated much more thorough than the first; and the next day she felt much better than she had for months: her cough seemed to be broken up, and

she continued to improve from that day. At the expiration of three weeks, she had taken four courses of medicine, and considered herself so near well, that she wanted to start right off home. I persuaded her, however to stop another week, for the purpose of taking one course more. At this time, she could walk all over the city without the least fatigue or inconvenience.

About this time, (September) the great "whig procession" paraded the streets. My patient—with some other ladies as thoughtless as herself—went into a loft over a store to have a good view of the procession; and fearing that they should be too late, she was much hurried in dressing, and got into a profuse perspiration, and then went into this loft and sat by an open window, with a large door open at the back part of the store, for three or four hours, a strong current of air pouring upon her all the time. The consequence was, all her symptoms returned upon her with increased violence—she was obliged to take four more courses to bring her up again to where she was when she had taken the first four—and even then her cough was not wholly subdued; it did not yield so readily to the courses now, as it did in the first place; but on steaming the head, and inhaling the smoke from *cayenne cigars*, it was so much relieved that she returned home the last of September, and by continuing the same treatment a few weeks after she got home, she was restored to sound health, which she still enjoys. She is now an uncompromising Thomsonian.

MR. EDITOR:—I am sorry to be under the necessity of asking you to send me the number of the Manual for the 1st inst. as it did not reach me; and I do not wish to lose one of them so much do I prize them. The small sum that I pay for your paper, is repaid to me an hundred fold by the valuable information that I obtain from it; and, did I learn nothing new, so long as it is the organ of *Doct. Samuel Thomson*,—a man who has done, and I believe is still doing more to benefit his race than any other man now living—still would I willingly pay my two dollars for it, and think the money well laid out. It is the source through which he comes before the community, to expose the fraud and iniquity of the *imposing*,—and *designing*. I have seen a few numbers of the humbug, (i. e.) the opposition paper, and in my opinion, the very face of it shows it to have been got up by men of little talents, to bring themselves into notice.—What must we think of men who will have the effrontery to call a man a counterfeiter of his own

coin, a cheat upon himself—and a destroyer of his own house,—or, doing business in a way which would certainly bring ruin and loss upon himself!—When I see men, set themselves up for the *pure*, the only *true* Thomsonian, I almost wish, that I were of some other specie that "I might not call man my brother." There are times when these men, who are now doing every thing in their power to injure Doct. Thomson, must feel that remorse, and soreness of conscience, which destroys the pleasure of gain, and triumphs over all the gratification which any good deeds of theirs may be calculated to produce, and fill them with sorrow.

I have derived great benefit from the Thomsonian medicines, and the system I hold to be the best yet discovered. I have my medicines of the old gentleman himself; and I know them to be good, they answer the purpose, and I find that by a strict adherence to the "guide," I have saved myself much in the way of doctor's fees—I regret that contentions have sprung up, and divisions taken place; but it is not more than must be expected in all classes of improvements; and when we turn our attention to the days of our Saviour, even in his little chosen band we find that the liar and betrayer were among them.—But I hope Doctor Thomson will keep up, and as he always has done, still continue to shine brighter by constant rubbing.

Yours &c.

JAMES GRAY,

Portland, March 27th, 1841.

THE THOMSONIAN PRACTICE.—Has fairly lived down opposition, and the venerable author now suffers more from imitators and counterfeits of his medicine and practice, than from opponents.—The New York legislature lately repealed the law nullifying Thomsonian accounts or rendering them uncollectable by law, and left them on equal footing with all other accounts. The system of practice, it is said, was publicly advocated and approved. Dr. Thomson himself, after encountering all manner of hardships, sneers, prosecutions and persecutions, has triumphed over all opposition and is allowed to enjoy the fruits of his own invention and labor unmolested. He lives at a good old age in Boston, and has a medical office, No. 40 Salem street, where he receives the calls of his patients, and supplies them with medicines, of all kinds from his own store.—[Lynn Record.]

HAPPINESS in a cottage seems always more real than it does in a gorgeous palace. It is not wasted in large rooms—it is concentrated—a great deal of affection in a small space; a great, great deal of joy within narrow walls, and compressed, as it were, by a low roof. Is it not a blessed thing that the most narrow means become enlarged by the affections?—and that we need not be rich to be happy?

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE
THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.
Acton, Robert Chaffee
Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
Ashby, F A Kendall
Andover, John Harding
Ashby, Thomas Gibson
Colerain, Oscar J Martin
" Calvin W. Shattuck
" Robert Dewey
Chesterfield, Amos Bisby
" Varnum Nichols
Danvers, Amos Trask
" Joseph Shaw Jr
" South Parish, James Worcester
Essex, Eli F Burnham
Eastham, Scotter Cobb
Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
" M. O. Bradford
" Isaac Wood, Jr.
Fitchburg, John Gibbs
Gardner, S C Phiuney
Gloucester, Samuel Friend, Gideon Lane
and Geo Saville
Harvard, J. Hosmer, and P. F. Osgood
Leveret, Myron Ashley
Lowell, Aaron P. Holt.
Lynn, Perkins H Dow
Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney
Milford, S Sumner
Munson, Cyrus Day
Munroe, Maturin Ballou
North Danvers, E. B. Putnam.
North Bridgewater, Nahum J Smith
North Reading, Eben'r Eaton
" Thomas Abbot
North Andover, L. T. Presson
New Bedford, Prince Weeks, and G. Nye
Newburyport, G W Goodwin
" J Blood
Orleans, Vickery Sparrow
Plymouth, Samuel Barnes
Reading, N K J Vinal
South Andover, Jacob Jenkins
Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
Salem, R W Merrill
" David E. Saunders
Springfield, Sirguy Noble
Sturbridge, D Mason, and Wm H Rice
Stoughton, Luther Belcher
Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh
Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
Walpole, Williard Lewis
Waltham, J Shepley
Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
Camden, Thomas Annis
East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon
Eastport, John Shackford
Frankfort, George Kimball
Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher

Machias, Wm. Smith
Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster
" M. M. Miles
Norway, Jotham Goodnow
Portland, Daniel Sawyer
" Rev. C. D. Ffrench
Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
Ripley, Samuel A. Todd
Searsmont, Randlet Ness
'Thomaston, Horatio Alden
Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, Bethuel Keith
Exeter, S. J. Perkins
Kingston, John Dearborn,
Langdon, Royal Shumway
Meredith, William M. Ladd
Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
New Hampton, James Jackson
Nashua, Jesse Whitney
Pembroke, Moses Martin
Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Brookfield, Aaron Cleveland
Bennington, George Boardman Jr
Chelsea, Benj. Grout
Chesterfield, Sally Paine
Charlemont, David Todd
Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
Dover, Daniel Leonard
" Washington Leonard
East Randolph, P. Smith
Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
Halifax, S. Plumb, and Eben'r M. Clark
" Alvah Brooks, and John Reid, Esq.
Green River, Sam'l Cutting
Guilford, Henry Packer, and Philip Martin
Londonderry, J. Arnold
Randolph, Jehiel Smith
Readsboro', Leavitt Ballou
Woodstock, Nathan Cushing, and J. Holt
Whitingham, W. Goodnow
" Reuben Green, and Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason
Woonsocket, Parker A. Haven

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson
New Haven, George Munson
Norwich, O B Lyman

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson
New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev-
enth St., near 5th Avenue
Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
Troy, Ira Wood

NEW JERSEY.

Hightown, Lawrence Taylor

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount, A. Willford

Dr. Samuel Thomson

WOULD inform his friends and the public generally, that the only places in Boston where medicines can be had, prepared by himself, under his new Patent, is at his **GENERAL DEPOT AND INFIRMARY, 40 SALEM STREET**, near Cross street. and at No. 7 **WATER STREET**, near Washington st.


The sale of Medicines and the Infirmary are superintended by **DOCT. NATH'L S. MAGOON**. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

The following is a list of some of the medicines for sale at the above establishment, with their prices annexed:—

Cayenne,	\$1.00	per lb.	12½	cts.	per oz.
Composition Powder,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Conserve Hollyhock,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
" " Pills,	1.25	"	12½	"	"
Coffee, or coarse Bayb.	.50	"	12½	"	"
Cancer Plaster,			25	"	"
Golden Seal,	1.50	"	12½	"	"
Ginger, ground,	.25				
Headache Snuff,	1.25	"	12½	"	"
Healing Salve,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Lobelia, green	2.00	"	25	"	"
Lobelia Seed, pulv.	3.00	"	25	"	"
Murrh Gum,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Nerve Powder,	2.50	"	20	"	"
Poplar Bark,	.50	"	12½	"	"
Raspberry Leaves,	.50	"	12½	"	"
Spiced Bitters,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Strengthening Plaster,	1.00	"	20	"	"
Slippery Elm Bark,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
" " pulv	1.05	"	12½	"	"
Unicorn Root,	2.50	"	25	"	"
Woman's Friend,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Volatile Salts,	1.50	"	25	"	per bot
Cough Syrup,	\$1.00	per bottle.			
No. 5 Syrup,	1.00	"			
Essences,	1.00	"	12½	cts.	per oz.
Eye Water,			25	"	"
Meadow Fern Ointment,			25	"	"
Nerve Ointment,	3.00	per bot.	25	"	"
Pepper Sauce,	.42	"			
Rheumatic Drops,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Tincture Lobelia,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Third Preparation,	2.00	"	25	"	"
Vegetable Jelly,	1.00	"			
Wine Bitters,	.75	"			

DR. THOMSON will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be *post paid* or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.


 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.


BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next—by which time subscribers are requested to send in their subscriptions.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

 **CONDITIONS.**—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

 Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., October 1, 1840.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct 1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, MAY 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 13.

From the Cayuga Tocsin.

MOTHER.

Ay, well that word might wake spontaneous gush
Deep in the breast of love! No other brow
Weareth for thee that bright, unchanging smile,
So blended with thy shadowed cradle-dreams!

Come, sit thou down awhile, at Memory's feet,
And she will read thee from that tender page
Which tells of *one* who was to *thy first years*
Parent and friend. Oh! *there* are treasured up
Thoughts for the hour of musing solitude,
That lie too deep for speech,—too deep to ask
The idle form of common sympathy,
That stranger-heart, unchastened, unbereaved,
Might lightly give!

As turns the lonely vine,
In search of shrub or tree whereon to lift
Its green luxuriance towards the summer sky,
E'en so the heart left desolate doth pine
For something it may love;—doth long to twine
Its green affections round some kindred heart,
And there repose its trustfulness. But who,
Oh! who may cheer thine orphanage like *her*
Who hideth in her breast a mother's love
Which knows not time nor change?

The heart repulsed
Doth gather back its proffered sympathies,
And silent grieve!

From the Southern Botanic Journal.

ON DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

BY W. H. FONERDEN.

The forms of disease to which the motory nerves, or nerves of motion are liable, present a variety of symptoms, though it would seem they are all reducible to two species; the one being an obstruction of the free transmission of nervous influence; the other, obstruction of the function by which nervous influence, in whatever that may consist, is generated. In some of the modifications of these, the muscles are contracted, or rigid, or both; and in others, they are affected with sudden and irregular snatches of agitation; and in others yet, various muscles are implicated, and, especially when excited by the will, are subject to tremulous and simultaneous agitation, partaking of a chronic character.

As it would require far too much time to notice all the sub-divisions of the diseases affecting the nerves of motion, which have been made by medical writers, I shall only call your attention to two,—St. Vitus' dance, and palsy.

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The first, technically called chorea, is characterized by an alternate tremulous and jerking motion of the face, arms, and legs. These irregular movements are particularly frequent and severe, when the muscles are brought into voluntary action. It is a disease of early life, commonly making its appearance from the fourth to the fourteenth year. Its invasion is insidious. The more violent motions are preceded by a ravenous appetite, loss of sprightliness, swelling and tension of the abdomen, and constipation of the bowels which is generally aggravated as the disease advances. These symptoms are succeeded by slight irregular, and involuntary motions of the different muscles.

Chorea is essentially a disease of debility, and arises, for the most part, from debility of the stomach and collatitious viscera. Hence, the indications of cure are simple, and easy of fulfilment. The irritability of the stomach must be allayed by the free employment of lobelia emetics, combined with anti-spasmodics, as nerve powder; and its functions restored by the constant use of tonics. The intestines must be unloaded of the accumulated and hardened feces, which keep up the irritation and protract the disease. The administration of a course of medicine should precede other means, to prepare the system for their beneficial effects; and if the circumstances of the case require it, should be repeated.

As, perhaps, in the majority of cases, the chief irritation will be found to have its seat in the intestines, immediate attention must be paid to them. Injections, combining in their composition stimulant, anti-spasmodic, tonic, and astringent properties, must be frequently exhibited, in order that the canker may be dislodged, the bowels roused to the proper performance of their functions, the nervous irritability allayed, and the general system strengthened.

Paralysis, or palsy, is a disease, usually, of maturity. The agitation is permanent, and is independent of any voluntary excitement of the muscles. The body is bent forward, and there is a propensity to run, and even to fall on the face.

This disease, like the preceding, must be attacked with a full course of medicine, followed by the most powerful stimulants and tonics that can be commanded. Rubefacients, as pepper-sauce or number six, (of which the latter will, perhaps, be found most beneficial,) must be ap-

plied along the course of the spine, and the back of the neck. The friction with which the application is made, must be considerable, and resolutely persevered in. The torpor of the bowels can only be removed by stimulant injections, which, as in chorea, must be frequently administered.

These two modifications of disease may, to a certain extent, be numbered amongst the *opprobria medicorum*, [the reproaches of the medical profession,] since they are incurable by any mode of treatment, other than that instituted by Thomson. Nor is it to be wondered at, that a want of success has universally attended the common practice; for the remedies employed have a direct and unalterable tendency to exhaust and depress the nervous energy, a loss or diminution of which, essentially constitutes the class of diseases now under consideration.

The disease affecting the nerves of sensation, are, of course, to be viewed under five general divisions, as affecting one or other of the corporeal senses; although, as I shall hereafter show, there are several disorders of the organs of corporeal sense, commonly treated of as depending on derangements of their nerves, which should rather be regarded as lesions of structure, than as lesions of the nerve, of those organs. This class, therefore presents us with diseases of sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch; which consist of a morbid acuteness, a depravation, or a total loss of one or more of these senses.

It will generally be found on strict examination, that, where one of the senses is obtunded or deficient, the deficit is balanced by greater acuteness of one or all the others; no mean proof of the correctness of Thomson's theory, that disease consists in obstruction producing a disturbance in the equilibrium of circulation; for it is to be remembered that although the motific and sensific power are both derived from the nervous system, the nerves themselves owe their vitality to the proper distribution of blood to them; so that a disturbance of the balance of circulation, deprives the brain and nerves of the necessary quantum of vitality, without which a due proportion of nervous influence can neither be generated nor transmitted.

Several of the forms of opthalmic disease, or depraved vision, demand rather the attention of the oculist than the general practitioner; such are, opacity of the cornea and of the vitreous humor, cataract, closure of the pupil, amaurosis or drop serene, and squinting. Those which are immediately under the control of medical prescriptions, are six in number: the first characterized by a painfully acute vision when the eye is exposed to a strong light; the second, by a dull and confused sight in an obscure light; the third, by accurate vision when the object is

distant; the fourth, by clear perception when the object is near; the fifth, by obliquity of vision, without squinting; the sixth, by the appearance of objects floating before the eyes, or by the objects seen appearing to be possessed of other qualities than their real ones.

As I before remarked, the diseases of the nervous system originate in an obstruction to the generation or free transmission of nervous influence; the affections I have just noticed, lend additional weight to the position; for it is worthy of observation that the acuteness of one sense is proportionate to the obtuseness of another, and *vice versa*; and that a similar phenomenon occurs when discordant action takes place between symmetrical organs of sense.—Thus, when vision is lost, hearing or touch frequently becomes more accurate; and when the sight of one eye is impaired, that of the other is generally increased.

Hence, the general grand indication in all the affections I have enumerated, is either the promotion of the due generation of nervous influence, or the equalization of its transmission.—Whether the first consist, according to Dr. Good, in the secretion of a nervous fluid, or in some peculiar and hitherto inexplicable action of the brain; and whether the second depends on the circulation of a nervous fluid, or, according to Dr. Hartley, on a vibratory motion of the nerves; still, both indications may be accomplished by the administration of courses of medicine, in conjunction with a proper plan of intermediate treatment. I have adopted the term *nervous influence*, as expressing merely the effect produced on the various organs of the body, rather than the mode or means of its accomplishment, since these are subjects beyond the comprehension of man; at least, under the light he at present enjoys.

Lobelia offers us one of the most valuable remedial agents in diseases of this class, inasmuch as its action seems to be wholly exerted through the nervous system. In proof of this I may cite, the similarity of its operation to that of electricity and galvanism; in the speed with which it is manifested not only on the centres, but also on the extremity of the nerves; the peculiar sensation it frequently produces in the brain, and along the course of the spinal cord; the apparent expenditure of its powers on that precise spot where the disease is located; the influence it exerts over the generation and diffusion of animal heat; and lastly, the promotion of nutrition which follows its employment.—Aided in its salutary effects, as it is when exhibited in a full course, by the stimulant properties of Number Two, the alterative qualities of the canker medicines or Number Three, and equalizing influence of the vapor bath, it cannot

fail to relieve every disease affecting sensation which is under the control of human means, and not dependent on derangement of structure. The intermediate treatment should consist of stimulants, astringents, and tonics, combined and exhibited according to the peculiarities of each individual case; together with such topical applications as the nature of the case may suggest to the mind of the physician.

I would not be understood, however, as implying by the remark, that some of the diseases of vision require surgical, rather than medical aid, that they are entirely beyond the reach of medicine; for as in others, so in this class, there are many cases deemed, and which are, indeed, incurable under the ordinary modes of treatment, that yield, if not readily, at least eventually, to a judicious and persevering application of the Thomsonian remedies; especially if the disease be taken in time. Thus opaque cornea, opacity of the vitreous humor, cataract, and amaurosis may often be removed by the increased action of the absorbents, produced by lobelia emetics, stimulants, and alteratives, without recourse to a surgical operation; and even strabismus, or squinting, which consists in permanent contraction of the muscles of the eye, may sometimes be cured by relaxation, produced in a similar way.

The sense of hearing is also liable to morbid affections, resembling in their general characteristics, those of vision. Sometimes, the auditory nerves are painfully sensible, and even intolerant of the lowest sounds; and at others, are totally insensible of the loudest: the ear may be so perverted, as to be able to distinguish articulate sounds, only when it is aroused by other and louder noises; or it may recognize double sounds, when only one is produced: or again, it may be incapable of distinguishing sounds, except when clear and distinct: or it may hear illusory sounds, which are not in reality made.

When these diseases arise from purely local causes, local means will be sufficient for their removal; syringing the ears with warm water and Castile soap, and dropping into them a drop or two of equal parts of almond oil, third preparation of lobelia, and tincture of nervine, to be repeated two or three times a day, and the application of Dr. Thomson's liniment behind and below the ears. When, however, the affection is chronic, or originates from a more general cause, operating on the whole system, constitutional treatment must be adopted. A course or two of medicine must be taken; the vapor bath used once or twice a week; the bowels excited to action by stimulating injections; composition taken freely; and the tonical means above recommended, resorted to.

The same general principles will serve the intelligent practitioner as a sufficient guide in the treatment of diseases of the nerves of taste, smell, and touch; since the main difference between these, and those of sight and hearing, is their location.

It will now be seen, that notwithstanding the ignorance usually ascribed to Thomsonian physicians, they are in possession of remedial means most efficacious in the removal of those distressing forms of disease, which are least tractable under the common plans of treatment. Indeed, as I have so frequently said, were success made the usual, as it is the proper criterion of the truth of theory, soon would Thomsonism gain the rank to which it is ultimately destined to be elevated—soon would the errors that now cumber medical science, hide their deformity by skulking back to the caverns of everlasting darkness from which they sprang, to wrap in the mantle of misery a too credulous world.

From the Same.

QUACKERY.

We have been kindly furnished by Dr. L. H. Baker with a copy of the Louisville, (Ky.) Public Advertiser, in which he has marked for our observation, the following paragraph in relation to the Medical Convention now in session at Frankfort.

"The Medical Convention is still in session. War to the knife is declared against quacks and quack medicines. There are from 70 to 80 Doctors in Convention. One measure proposed is, to make every one prescribing for a patient specify in a written prescription, the exact materials of the compound; and apothecaries administering medicines to do the same. This will be very good. It will be so generous for the leading physicians, of superior attainments, great experience, patient and long research, and brilliancy of genius, make known the fruits of their industry, learning and skill, for the benefit of the idle, the indolent and ignorant members of the profession—should it so happen that the benevolent indulgence of Medical Institutes there could be any such,—the great good will be, that the latter will not *kill* so many, having easy access to the best remedies to men of superior skill; upon the fruits of whose brains they *can grow rich* without committing so much *homicide*. Surely there never was any thing so magnanimous as the noble institutions of this Medical Convention, in thus pledging themselves to open their hearts and secrets to each other and to the wise world for such a self-sacrificing and philanthropic purpose. May they live a thousand years!"

We are glad to find that "quacks and quack medicines," have at length incurred the displeasure of this sapient body; and we trust the declaration of war thus made, will never be recanted until this hydra of imposition on the credulous shall have been extirpated. A few words of counsel to the convention may not be amiss.

Now, gentlemen, so many and varied are the definitions given to quackery, that it becomes necessary both for your own credit as an association and as individuals, and for the welfare of the public at large, to investigate closely the symptoms of this destructive disease, and then to prescribe with judgment, lest in attempting its cure, you should consign to the tomb of oblivion, many whose professional skill and success surpass your own.

This spreading disease, then, be it known to you, is frequently characterized by a desire to amass wealth, by making the public the dupes of base imposition; and a consequent wish to escape the toils of professional duties and cares. Hence the quack combines a few articles—sometimes inert simples, and at others the most virulent poisons—disguising their true nature by a plentiful admixture of some aromatic ingredients, and then proclaims the vile compound, a sovereign remedy for the whole catalogue of diseases. The more intelligent of his brethren may contemn, but the people are satisfied with his nostrums, and he is rewarded with their money. Now why should he care what the profession say of him, when he attains that with little labor, small expense, and no exposure, for which they toil day after day, and night after night, without success. While Jaynes, Evans, Higbee, and others of the same kidney, roll in their splendid carriages, "are clothed in fine linen, and fare sumptuously every day," their luxuries purchased with the scanty earnings of the poor, who patronize their nostrums with the delusive hope of being cured in a short time and at small expense, why should they heed the reproaches of honest men or the reproaches of conscience. The constant cry of such a patient, while laboring under the fell influence of quackery, is, "money I must and *will* have, though I tarnish my professional reputation, rob the rich, and grind the faces of the poor to the dust. If I cannot accomplish my object by an anti-dyspeptic pill, a pulmonary balsam, or a soothing syrup, yet will I open the flood-gates of crime, pour over the land the swelling tide of moral pollution, sap the foundation of virtue, and give full rein to the inflamed passions of youth, by puffing my specific for loathsome diseases. Heaven shall be defied, Earth filled with guilt and suffering, and Hell peopled with the victims of my baseness, sooner than I shall fail to gain the

favor of the 'Mammon of unrighteousness.' " Gentlemen of the Convention, if these be the patients, to whose leprous souls, you would prescribe, we bid you God-speed in your labor of love. In our columns, as well as those of your own periodicals, you will find an ever ready medium of casigation. Prepare your brands to a white heat, and we will burn to the very quick, those degraded and degrading creatures, until the mark of their guilt shall be as indellible as Cain's! Hand us the vials of your wrath, and from them we will pour the caustic lotion that shall remove these plague-spots of creation!

But are there no quacks among yourselves? Is the employment of the most deadly poisons, despite of the light of philosophy and the teachings of reason, no quackery? Is the adoption of unsound principles, and unsuccessful practice, no evidence that the disease has broken out in your own body, and now prevails to an alarming extent? The groans of the dying upbraid you; the tears of the widow and the orphan reproach you; and the spirits of the departed mock you; Death hails you as his younger brother; and the Grave acknowledges you as her bountiful provider! Turn your attention, therefore, to your self-engendered malady; and ere the eruption, already spreading over your entire body, become manifest to the world, seek a remedy in the simple, innoxious, and efficacious productions of vegetable nature.

Your "written prescriptions," specifying "the exact materials" of your compounds, will not suffice. What advantage shall the community derive from them? How shall the mass of the people understand your Greek and Latin technicalities, or decypher your quantitative hieroglyphics? How shall they know whether they swallow innocent preparations, or deadly poisons? Let your prescriptions be written in their mother tongue: for the sake of humanity, we entreat you lay aside the dead languages.—*Calomel* will be less injurious than *hydrargyri sub-murias*,—*solution of arsenic* less poisonous than *liquor potassæ arsenitis*,—and *Spanish flies* less torturing than *emplastrum cantharidis*; because, if common names were used, men would not be so regardless of safety, as to take these destructive remedies.

Nor will your "written prescriptions" better subserve the purposes of justice. Who shall detect and drag forth the homicide, to answer for his ignorant waste of human life? Who shall determine whether the improper preparation of compounds, the admixture of incompatibles, or the poisonous nature of the ingredients, is the cause of death in any one instance? It is folly to attempt the punishment of ignorance for the evil consequences of a compound, every single component of which is, in itself, exhaust-

ing to the constitution, and destructive to life. If trials are to be instituted at all, try those who prescribe unmixed poison, and then shall the health of the people be secured.

In conclusion, we would suggest to the Convention, that the most speedy and effectual way to wage a successful war against "quacks and quackery," is, to employ no article as a remedy, which is possessed of deleterious properties, and to spread before the people the light of true medical science. Make every man acquainted with the fundamental principles on which medicine is based; and ere long, quacks and their impositions shall meet the fate so justly their due,—universal obloquy and contempt.

ABUSES OF THE EYE.

BY DR. W. A. ALCOTT.

LIGHT.—To those who have not sufficiently considered that "the light of the body is the eye," the direction to expose this organ as much as possible to the light of day, may seem almost superfluous. But we very much mistake if there are not hundreds among us, who, though they know that the eye is adapted to the light, and light to the eye, have never yet made the very rational and practical inference, that the eye cannot attain to perfection without a daily full supply of this natural and healthful stimulus. Confinement or seclusion from light is at least as injurious to man as to plants; and one of the greatest mistakes made in civilized life, is the almost universal disregard of this important principle. He who would improve his eye-sight to the highest possible pitch, must be as much as he can be in the pure, uncontaminated light of heaven.

But is not the glare of the sun's light injurious? we shall probably be asked. No doubt it may be, in some circumstances. The bad eye-sight and weak eyes of the Russians and several other northern nations, has been usually attributed to their exposure to the bright rays of the sun, reflected for so many months of the year from the snow and ice with which their country is carpeted. But even in Russia, there is much room for doubt whether the strong light of the sun would be injurious, were it not *reflected*, especially when it is recollected that the eye-lids, like curtains, are interposed between the eyes and the direct rays of the sun, so that the latter seldom annoy us, except perhaps for a little while morning and evening; and then they are by no means very powerful. We do not believe any fears need be entertained from excess of light in case of the healthy eye, except when the light is reflected, as from snow, white walls, marble tables, &c., except perhaps in the case of fire-places.

In order to have the eyes brought sufficiently into contact with the light, in accordance with the intentions of the Creator, we must be abroad a considerable part of our time, when we are healthy, unprotected by umbrellas, parasols, or covered carriages, and even without very broad brims to our hats and bonnets. We must, moreover, have all the rooms we occupy well lighted. We must also rise early enough in the morning to avail ourselves of the light of the sun as soon as it rises.

How much there is of practical error among us, in the construction of our rooms! Complaints have been made, of late, in regard to school-rooms, that they were faulty in many respects; and among the rest, that they were almost universally poorly lighted. But it is not our school-houses alone which are faulty; it is our churches, our shops, our factories, and above all, our dwelling houses. We say *above all*, and we mean what we say. We spend but a few hours in the church, and that for one day only in the week; our children spend but six hours in a day in a school-room, for about five days in the week; and as for our shops and factories, though we spend a greater number of our hours there than our children do in the school-room, yet we do not, as a general fact, eat and drink and sleep there. It is our dwellings which, above all other buildings, need attention with reference to being properly lighted. Not only our sitting rooms and our parlors, but all our rooms, and even our sleeping chambers, should be so constructed as to have free access to the light as possible. Indeed, it has for some time past been enjoined by most of our teachers and writers on health, that sleeping rooms should be well lighted—not indeed for the benefit of the eye itself while we sleep, but for other reasons.

We have alluded to the evils of strong light reflected from the earth's surface, or from any thing which is situated so near the earth's surface, that the reflected rays, instead of falling upon the natural curtain of the eyes—the eye-lids—fall directly upon the eyes themselves.—It is in this view that we have recommended placing all artificial lights—our lamps, candles, &c.—so that they may not shine directly upon the eye, but, like the sun, upon the upper surface of the eye-lids. But we go much farther still in this matter. We believe that they who would improve the eye-sight in the highest possible degree, should not only avoid strongly reflected light, but, if possible, almost all reflection. We would not, indeed, have every thing upon the earth's surface painted as black as jet, lest a single reflected ray should reach the eye; nor would we even paint our floors and our walls black. We would follow out, as much as

possible, the indications of the Creator. He has covered the greater part of the solid world, for the greater part of the year—and indeed the best portion for man to inhabit, for nearly the whole of it—with that “living green,” which of all other colors contains the best admixture of light and shade for the eye. And even the mighty ocean, designed, we believe, in part at least, to be the highway of nations, has a deep blue covering. Let these indications, we again say, of the Almighty Creator of the universe, be followed out and regarded, and we shall not find the eye resting so often upon bright or polished surfaces as now. There will be less of light colored clothing among us; fewer white walls in our rooms; darker floors—we do not say filthier ones, for that is quite another thing—plainer carpets, and less of light colored or brightly polished furniture. There will be more ink used by printers and by every body else,—so much more that it will not then be difficult, we had almost said, to determine whether a sheet of paper or a book has really been printed or written over, or whether it is still a blank.

One evil of cities and city life is more than indicated by the preceding remarks. Not only does the eye of the citizen rest on substances too light colored, while in the dwelling, the school-house, the study, the shop, the factory, and the church, but elsewhere. If he goes out, in one of our cities, the relief of even a garden is denied him. All is naked pavements and sidewalks and walls; and he is too closely occupied to go beyond these for relief. Whereas, if he is to be shut up to improper objects the rest of the time, he ought at least to have his eye rest on better things in his walks abroad.—The least which can safely be done is to have well cultivated gardens, in which he can ramble; and well cultivated fields and choice grounds are almost equally indispensable.

When will mankind understand the importance of verdure to the eye, to say nothing of its effects on general health and happiness? Until they do, not only will the manufacture of spectacles and eye waters continue to increase, but the manufacture of a thousand other things, which while they afford present relief only, seem to encourage, or at least to license a still farther deviation from the path which has been marked out to us by the Creator.

A SECRET WORTH KNOWING.

Truth is strange—stranger than Fiction

Under this head the Long Island Star publishes an interesting tale, for the extended details of which, we cannot find room, but must content ourselves with giving the leading facts in a condensed form for the benefit of our readers.

A young man of good character and correct habits, commenced business in a good and improved neighborhood. His stock was small, as were his means, and his stock of customers were still smaller. His sales hardly met his expenses, and he was evidently going “down hill,” and the old grocer on the opposite corner predicted that he would soon be at the bottom.

That the young grocer had reason to regret this opinion of the old grocer will appear. The latter had a daughter who had won the heart of the former. He offered himself to her and was rejected. It was done, however, with the assurance that he was the man of her choice, but that she acted in obedience to her father's commands.

Assured of the affections of the woman of his choice, he set himself about removing the only obstacle in the way of their union—the father's objection to his pecuniary prospects.

A year had elapsed, and lo, what a change! The young grocer was now going up hill with the power of a steam locomotive; customers came in from all quarters, and even many had left the old established stand on the opposite corner, for the young favorite. There was a mystery about it which puzzled the old grocer sorely, but which he could not unravel. He at length became nearly sick with losses and aggravations, and vain attempts to discover the secret of his neighbor's success.

At this juncture—Angelica—for that was the daughter's name—contrived to bring about an apparently accidental interview between the parties. After the old man had become, through the intervention of the daughter, tolerably good humored, he enquired with great earnestness of the young man, how he had contrived to effect so much in a single year, to thus extend his business and draw off the customers from the old stand.

The young man evaded an answer—but enquired if he had any further objections to his union with Angelica. “None,” replied he, “provided you reveal the secret of your success.” This the young man promised, when his happiness was made complete. The old man commended his prudence on this point. The affair was all settled and the marriage soon took place.

The friends of the young couple were all assembled, and among them many of the customers of the two stores. Angelica and Thomas looked as happy as they well could be, and the old gentleman was, if possible, happier than they. The bridal cake was about to be cut, when the old man called out for “THE SECRET.”

“It is a very simple matter,” says Thomas, “I ADVERTISED!!!”

The old gentleman was very, *very* old-fash-

ioned, and while he shook Thomas heartily by the hand, and kissed Angelica fifty times over, he merely muttered, "*Why the dickens did n't I think of that ?*"

HEALTH.—"A man," says Sir William Temple, "has but these four things to choose out; to *exercise* daily, or be *sick*." We may venture to assert with a much later writer that the principal secrets of health, are early rising, exercise, personal cleanliness, and leaving the table unoppressed. When a family rises early in the morning I conclude the house to be well governed, and the inmates to be industrious and healthy.

With respect to exercise, here is a simple law of nature—"Earn that you may enjoy." In other words—secure a good digestion by exercise. As much, perhaps may be said concerning ablution as exercise. Dispel the ill humors from the pores. Cleanliness is a virtue, though not the first in rank, one of the first at least, in necessity.

On the subject of temperance, that sturdy moralist, Johnson, speaking of a book in which it was recommended, observed, "Such a book should come out every thirteen years dressed in the mode of the time." "*He that would eat much,*" says the proverb, "*must eat little.*" Let us not confound temperance with starvation—on the contrary, it is strictly moderate eating. We may be intemperately abstemious, as well as intemperately luxurious.

From all that has been said and written on the subject—from the experience of every age and every climate we may conclude, that they are the most healthy, who have nature for their cook; hunger for their caterer; who have no doctor but the sun and fresh air, and no other physic than temperance and exercise.—[Tenn. Tel.

I HAVE NO TIME LEFT FOR STUDY.—The idea about the want of time is a mere phantom.—Franklin found time in the midst of all his labors, to dive into the hidden recesses of philosophy, and to explore an untrodden path of science. The great Frederic, with an empire at his direction, in the midst of war, on the eve of battles which were to decide the fate of his kingdom, found time to revel in all the charms of philosophy and intellectual pleasures. Bonaparte, with all Europe at his disposal, with kings in his ante-chamber begging for vacant thrones; with thousands of men whose destinies were suspended on the brittle thread of his arbitrary pleasure, had time to converse with books.—Cæsar, when he had curbed the spirit of the Roman people, and was thronged with visitors

from the remotest kingdom, found time for intellectual cultivation. Every man has time, if he be careful to improve it; and if he does improve it as well as he might, he can reap a three fold reward.

Let mechanics then make use of the hours at their disposal, if they want to obtain a proper influence in society. They are the life blood of the community; they can, if they please, hold in their hands the destinies of the republic; they are numerous, respectable, and powerful; and they have only to be educated half as well as other professions, to make laws for the nation.

Every man has time for study. If farmers and mechanics, yes, and merchants too, would devote the one half of the time at their disposal, to study, they would reap a rich reward. Let them then betake themselves to industry, and devote more of their time to study, and the acquisition of useful knowledge, and not so much to unprofitable amusements. There are very few, who cannot daily spend two hours for mental cultivation. If they would do even this, how much more extensive would be their information, and how much greater their influence in society. In addition to this peculiar advantage, we would not then be necessarily compelled to call none but professional men to sit in the council of the nation; we would occasionally have a farmer, a mechanic, &c. who could render us efficient service.

PERSEVERANCE.—They tell me, that there is a plant which thrives the more when trodden upon. A plant which one of our revolutionary heroines designated as the "*rebel plant*." There too is a noble trait in man, which is worth all the gold in the world, and will, if followed up, lead to honor and fame, happiness and the good of mankind. It is Perseverance.

The youth who clings to this prize, will rise above the frowns of the world, no matter how poor he may have been in the start. Without this, and the twin-sister virtue, none need expect to soar above the vulgar crowd that daily throng his path. It was by perseverance, that our noble statesman and scholars have risen to the high station they enjoy. Without wealth and but few friends, they have cleared out their road, and now have reached the desired station. Wealth is a necessary evil, but it is a poor recommendation to perseverance. Thousands have been deluded by the possession, whereas, on the other hand, the majority of our star characters have risen without it. Choose ye an object, and persevere with all thy might, and ye shall obtain it. Falter not on the way, and the prize is yours. If you meet with misfortunes, and

should you lose all that you have gathered, do not be discouraged, but make the best use of it you can, and you will rise. There is nothing mortal, can keep down a persevering mind.—The more the man is persecuted and reviled, the stronger will be his hopes, and he at last will have the pleasure of seeing his enemies confounded, and himself their superior.—[Ex. paper.]

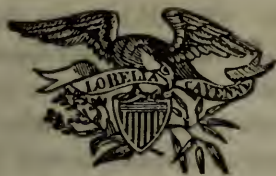
ATMOSPHERIC EFFECTS.—We are all aware if the weather be damp and foggy, that a listless and languid state is produced, whilst in dry weather, however cold it may be, there is a feeling of light-heartedness and cheerfulness pervading the whole system. In the first instance the atmosphere is robbing us of our electricity, which it greedily absorbs; in the latter case, its dryness is such, that it leaves us in the possession of the electricity which seems to belong to us; hence the buoyancy of spirits on the cold and frosty days of December and January and suicidal despondency of November, and hence the elasticity, the life, animation of the Frenchman, the sluggish, heavy movements of the Dutchman, the variable feelings of the Englishman, one day full of hope and cheerfulness and the next at war with himself and the rest of mankind. To every one in damp, moist conditions of the atmosphere, flannel is a great comfort, but silk is the most useful covering of the body. It is by far the best friend and comforter that can be applied. We know that if a silk handkerchief be perfectly dry, lightning the most accumulated could not pass through it, so decided a non-conductor is it; hence if worn next to the skin the air cannot absorb the electricity of the human body. Still, waistcoats, drawers, and stockings, are of the greatest service during the humid state of the winter months of this country. The hypochondriac, the nervous, will derive from them more benefit than from the most active tonic, and they will prove a more invigorating cordial than any spirituous dram; nor are the effects transient, for a buoyancy of spirits and an agreeable warmth, are thus diffused over the whole frame.—[Dr. Simon's use of Mercury.]

MANIFOLD VIRTUES OF THE ELDER TREE.—Sir J. E. Smith has remarked that this tree is, as it were, a whole magazine of physic to rustic practitioners. It is said that if sheep that have the rot can get at the bark and young shoots of elder they will soon cure themselves. The wine made from elder berries is too well known by families in the country to need any encomiums; it is the only wine a cottager can produce, and when well made, it is a most excellent and wholesome drink taken warm before going to bed. It causes gentle perspiration, and is a mild opiate. If a rich syrup be made from ripe

elder berries, and a few bitter almonds, when added to brandy, it has all the flavor of the best cherry brandy. The white elder berries, when ripe make wine punch 'resembling grape wine. The buds and the young tender shoots are greatly admired as pickle. The leaves of the elder tree are often put into the subterranean paths of moles, to drive those noxious little animals from the garden. If fruit trees, flowering shrubs, corn or other vegetables, be whipped with the green leaves of the elder branches, it is said insects will not attach themselves to them. An infusion of these leaves in water is good to sprinkle over rose-buds, and other flowers subject to blight, and the devastation of caterpillars.—[Leigh Hunt's London Journal.]

INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE UPON MAN.—The effects of malaria on the range of human life may be illustrated by a few facts. M. de Warville says that he has seen in the dry, healthy parts of America, women of sixty or seventy years of age with an air of freshness, and sparkling with health; and that in many places one person in nine attains the age of eighty years; while on the low island of Oleron, M. Moheau states that there are not more than five or six octogenarians in fourteen thousand inhabitants. The limits of life in Switzerland is placed by M. de Moivre at eighty-six years; while in Georgia it is stated, that white females born there very seldom attain the age of forty, and men rarely that of fifty years. Out of a thousand persons born in Vienna, half of them do not live to be two years of age; whilst in the province of Vaud, in Switzerland, five hundred out of a thousand persons born there live to be forty-one years old. At Petersburg, in Virginia, it is said, that no white person born there has ever attained the usual middle age, and then the body appears quite decrepid and worn down, although no severe sickness had been endured; and on the W. coast of Africa, white children born there, seldom attain ten years of age; this is strongly contrasted with the health of the people of the capital of Norway, where there is but one physician among 30,000 inhabitants. The preceding remarks sufficiently demonstrate the effects of climate and soil even on man, who, of all animals, is best capable of defending himself against the consequences of deleterious elements; for it cannot be denied, that in some countries his mind as well as his body arrives, with great rapidity and but little vigor, at maturity, when, without a perceptible intervening period of manhood, the corporeal structure hastens in an equal ratio of celerity to the grave; this fact is, however, but a part of the universal law of nature—that whatever is rapid in its growth, is equally speedy in its dissolution.—[Colonial Mag.]

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, MAY 15, 1841.

The True Thomsonian is continually casting off its filth and slime (of which it seems to have an abundance) on Doct. Thomson, the man under whose colors it is pleased to sale. Nothing comes amiss with it to use as a weapon of abuse against him to whom the Thomsonian community—all who are honest—delight in awarding praise that is justly due.

Their last number is more loathsome and detestable than any previous one has ever been if possible. How desperate must be their condition to grasp at such frail support as they do, to save their sinking bark.

They have repeatedly, and long, sounded their trumpet of fame, and warned the public against Dr. Thomson's medicines, calling him an adulterer and a vender of spurious medicine, and because we stated in our 11th number that a man told us he had sold at the New England Thomsonian Depot, *Cayenne*, which he raised in Belchertown, Mass., they seem grieved to the heart. We did not make the statement at the time, with the wish or intention of injuring that establishment—but to let the people know that those who boast so much of purity are sometimes not altogether pure. Mr. Hale denied that he bought the *Cayenne* as we was told he did, and had his paper not been so ready to charge the matter to Dr. Thomson, we should be some inclined to think that Mr French might have been mistaken as to the place at which he sold his *Cayenne*; but, the whole aim of the last Thomsonian seems to be, not only to clear itself, but to charge Dr. Thomson with buying the article himself, and then accusing them of it.—What double dealing this?

It is no more than justice to Dr. Thomson, that we state to the public, that he had no hand in the affair whatever, and knew nothing of the article until it was printed. Mr. French told us that he

traded at the New England 'Thomsonian Depot.' He told at our office, No. 35 Washington street; and we believed at the time, he told the truth, and that we might not be mistaken as to his story, we asked him whereabouts in the city the place was at which he traded; he replied, (pointing to the north part of the city) down below here a little distance; we were then particular to ask "*was it a large brick building?*" he said yes. Now whether Mr. French was mistaken or not, we cannot say; but that is what he stated in our office, and in the presence of others besides ourself.

We are thus particular, because the editor of the Thomsonian has worked so hard to affix our doings on Dr. Thomson.

As soon as we saw Mr. Hale's letter to Dr. Thomson, we wrote to Mr. French, stating that Mr. Hale denied what he had said to us about selling *Cayenne* at the N. E. Thomsonian Depot; and wishing to know the *truth*, at the same time telling him if what he had stated was not true, we could not see what object he had in view in telling it to us, and determining, if we had been instrumental in circulating what was incorrect, to contradict it as soon as possible. After our 12th number was printed we received a letter from him, which we subjoin:

Belchertown, May 2d, 1841.

SIR:—I did not take your letter out of the office till last evening. I have had a letter from Mr. Hale on the same subject, and have wrote to him. I do not know but I am mistaken in the place that I sold the *Cayenne*, but I really thought it was there, as the gentleman that bought it wanted it to make Thomsonian hot drops of.

There is no need of evidence for I thought so at the time and should now, if I had not had a conversation with Mr. Marsh.

You cannot conceive my object I had in stating it. I had none but my pride in gardening; I can truly say it is one of the greatest sources of pleasure that I have.

I did not plant the *Cayenne* for profit, but as an ornament round the walks. I have seven species of pepper. Yours, &c.

CALEB FRENCH.

The editor of the Thomsonian, makes a great bluster and flourish of threats and tells how much he could unfold if he chose. He reminds us of a young lawyer who was engaged in a bad cause, and when he got up to defend his client could say nothing in his favor, but fell to slandering his opponent. Why in the name of wonder don't he tell something if he knows so much? If he has any secrets and don't mean to impart them, why does he say any thing about them? The Belchertown *Cayenne* has evidently been put on a very tender spot, for we never saw the *pure African*, make a


patient writhe and kick more than this does the whole brood. We should think by the ruffled feathers, that the shot had taken effect somewhere.

There has been so much backbiting and slandering, and threatening of late, for our part we would say that if they had any thing to tell that would injure Dr. Thomson, they would out with it—not a thing would be kept back that could in the least injure him; for it is evident that no means have been left untried to break him down—and if they had more ammunition they would use it. Insinuation is the worst of slander, and for ourselves, we want the truth; if you know of any thing that is not right and just, out with it,—we demand it as our right, and until you are willing to give us your “dark doings” your own actions give the lie to your words.

When one man in his dealings with another renders value for value received, there is no more to be expected of him. But when the aged and infirm have been the support and prop of the young and middle aged, and have rendered them some great and essential service, he looks for gratitude in return at least. But how is it in this case? We find those who have been nourished in the protection of Dr. Thomson turning against him, not only in business, but injuring his character, not by bold and manly assertions, but by false, base and dastardly insinuations. Oh shame on thee, thou who stabbest another, and wrongest him in that thou canst not make him reparation. We would warn you, ye who resort to means so low and despicable, to pause and reflect on your course; stop short, ere you shall have over-stepped that path, whence you shall cast behind a lingering look, for be assured that when the grey head and inclined form of the venerable man whom ye now with so much lightness of heart traduce, shall be laid low—then will the remembrance of your own treachery, and the lowness to which you have descended come back to you with redoubled force, and your own self-condemnation will be horrid indeed.

THE BLOOD IN ANIMALS.—It is probable that there are at least twenty-four pints of blood in the body of a middling sized healthy man. Of this about an ounce, or two table spoons-full, are sent out at every beat of the heart. This multiplied by sixty, the lowest rate of the pulse, gives of course sixty ounces—about four pints—in a minute. This is 120 quarts, or thirty gallons, equal to more than eleven hogsheads, in twenty-four hours.

Now if the heart of the whale sends out, at each stroke, fifteen gallons, as some suppose, and if the heart beats twenty times in a minute, the quantity circulated through the whale, in twenty-four hours, will be 432,000 gallons, or nearly 8,000 hogsheads. The thought of such a river of blood is overwhelming.

 A friend has favored us with the following history of the first introduction of inoculation with small pox. It will be seen that the good citizens of Boston at once set their faces against it and were highly incensed at the few who adopted it. It was a doctor, remember, who introduced so fruitful a source of disease among us, as inoculation and vaccination has been found to be. Well had it been for mankind, had people always been as suspicious of the intensions of quackery as it appears the Bostonians were in 1721. We often hear people say, when speaking of their health—“I have never been well since I was inoculated, or vaccinated!”

INNOCULATION

Of small pox was first performed in the English dominions in April, 1721, upon a daughter of the celebrated Lady M. W. Montague, who had become acquainted with inoculation as practised by Turkish women during her residence in Constantinople. About this time, Dr. Zabdiel Boylston, of Boston, was induced to adopt the same expedient from reading an account of inoculation, and made his first experiment by inoculating his own son and two negro servants, on the 27th of June, 1721. Probably there was never greater opposition to any measure of doctor craft than was exhibited on this occasion; for Boylston was execrated and persecuted as a murderer; assaulted in the streets, and loaded with every species of abuse; his house was attacked with violence, so that neither himself nor his family could feel secure in it. At one time he remained fourteen days in a secret apartment of his own house, unknown to any of his family except his wife. The enraged inhabitants patrolled the town in parties with halters in their hands, threatening to hang him on the nearest tree, and repeatedly entered his house in search of him during his concealment. Such was the madness of the multitude that even after the excitement had in some measure subsided, Dr. Boylston only ventured to visit his patients at midnight, and then in disguise. He had also to encounter violent opposition from most of the members of his own profession; and notwithstanding he invited them all to visit his patients and judge for themselves, received nothing but threats and insults in reply. Indeed, many sober, pious persons were deliberately of opinion when inoculation was first commenced, that should any of his patients die, the Doctor ought to be capitally indicted.

He was repeatedly summoned before the selectmen of Boston and received their reprehension.—His only friends were Dr. Cotton Mather and

other clergymen, most of whom became zealous advocates for the new practice, and consequently drew upon themselves much odium from the populace. Some of them received personal injury; others were insulted in the streets, and were hardly safe in their own dwellings; nor were their services acceptable on Sunday to their respective audiences.

A bill for prohibiting the practice of inoculation under severe penalties, was brought before the Legislature of Massachusetts and actually passed the House of Representatives, but some doubts existing in the Senate, it failed to become a law. What a pity Dr. Boylston lived to see the cause he espoused triumphant over the lives and health of his fellow men; for millions of them have been destroyed by this accursed inoculation and carried to their graves before they have lived out half their days.

So prone are mankind to vacillate from one extreme to another, that on a subsequent appearance of the small pox in Boston, in the year 1792, the whole town was inoculated in three days, to appease the infatuation of the inhabitants respecting the danger apprehended from this deadly pestilence. Persons were inoculated indiscriminately to the number of 9,152, and such was the hurry and confusion with which it was done, and such the impossibility of rendering proper assistance and attention to so large a number, that 165 deaths were the consequence.

OBJECTIONS TO THE PRACTICE OF THE REGULAR FACULTY.

1st. They have no regular system, all pursuing different courses—which leads to the same end—death.

2nd. Where success attends their practice, they generally protract the disease, so as to gain larger fees, and they call some slight obstruction by a dangerous name, merely to be considered skilful physicians.

3d. Another objection is, the mystery in which they enshroud their practice, which is done not merely to keep a knowledge of their principles from the mass of the people, but with a view of hiding their own ignorance of disease with their mode of subduing it.

4th. When any infectious disorder invades their neighborhood, such as the yellow fever, Asiatic cholera, &c., they either lose nine tenths of their patients, or, they are the first to fly away from it, and leave their friends, who look to them for support, to the ravages of the disease.

5th. Because they use poisons, both vegetable

and mineral, under the name of medicine, to cure disease, which acts not in accordance with nature, but generally produces lingering disease, or violent death.

6th. Because, under the pretence of reducing violent action, destroying fevers, &c., they rob the patient of his blood, which is the only support of nature; thereby giving simple diseases the power, not only to destroy the health, but take the life of the patient.

7th. Because they are against all improvements in the healing art, avowing uncompromising hostility to persons who have introduced reform.

8th. Because the ignorance of most practitioners is such, that, take from them calomel and the lancet, and you sink them below mediocrity.

☞ Friend Vancise, of Bermudian, Pa., may rest assured that his Manuals are regularly, and faithfully mailed, and if he does not receive them, the fault is not ours. The alterations he requested made in directing his papers have been attended to, and the missing numbers forwarded.

Mr. Vancise speaks of the movements of one Steward, who is imposing on the people of his vicinity, with books and medicines of the *Larrabee* stamp, purporting to be *Thomsonian*. We would notify the public to be on the look out for “*wolves*.” Mr. Larrabee is not an agent of Dr. Thomson’s, and the books which he or his agents sell, are not of *genuine* Thomsonian stamp. It appears by the number who dip into it, that speculating in Thomsonism, is a profitable business, for few genuine dealers are to be found, in comparison to spurious ones.

Mr. V. says truly, that “the Thomsonian system is now generally known to be a good one, and it is to be hoped that the time may yet arrive when every family may be able to administer to their own wants when sick, and not be under the necessity of sending for a stranger. The mineral and mongrel systems I think are fast going down, and blessed be that day when all doctor craft shall have passed away.”

In regard to Mr. Mattson’s book, Mr. V. makes the following remarks:—

Some of the Boston True Thomsonianites have been anxiously waiting for the Mattson book, but it appears all is quiet. I understood the demand was so great that the first edition would not be sufficient for all who wanted; latterly I have heard nothing about the book, and consequently am inclined to believe that after the poor fellow was cautioned not to copy any thing from Dr. Thomson’s book, he had so little of his own, and that of so little account, that he would just “drop it, like the man did the hot potatoe,” and very prudent it is I think, for him if it is so.

It will be recollected that the work was said to have been ready for the press last *June*; we believe it is not published yet, and all the appearance there is of its ever being is, that the plates intended for it have been printed. Where 's the botany?

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

THOMSONISM.

MR. EDITOR,—It is peculiarly unfortunate for the Thomsonian cause, that there should be division in the ranks of its supporters; for we must all be aware, I think, that it is a great and rapidly-increasing hindrance to its success; and not only this, but that it has a direct tendency to destroy the very system itself. What confidence can the public have in the efficacy and virtue of our system so long as it beholds Thomsonians at variance with each other?—Will it not be said, that that system is of doubtful utility which cannot unite its friends? I speak of the matter as a disinterested observer—as one having no other object in view but the public good and the success of a medical system which I honestly believe is destined, in honorable hands, to work out the greatest good for the human race. I may be somewhat singular in my opinion, but I view the contentions among Thomsonians as producing similar effects to the disputes among religious sectarists. In the unfortunate controversies which characterise the course and conduct of the latter, the great principles of our holy religion are overlooked or disregarded; the gentle voice of Christianity is drowned in the torrent and tempest of acrimonious disputation; and what was evidently designed by our benevolent Creator as the “last best gift of heaven to man,” is made, by our unruly passions and base desires, an engine of bigotry, and intolerance, and persecution. I think I see in Thomsonism, as at present conducted by certain of its pretended friends, a tendency to the same results. They are too much given to strife and animosity. They are too eager in the pursuit of their own aggrandizement. They are striving, it appears to me, to build up a party, rather than to promulgate the truths of our system, and establish it upon a permanent basis.

For my own part, I sincerely regret the present state of things, and the still more disheartening prospect; for, in looking at the former, I am irresistibly impressed with the unwelcome thought, that our system is threatened with dissolution; and in reflecting upon the latter, I cannot escape the melancholy conclusion, as I throw my mind into the future, that the day is not far distant, when, by the bickerings and cupidity of secret enemies in the guise of friends, the Thomsonian system will be swallowed up and

lost in the numerous schemes and devices ever originating through the instrumentality of the unprincipled and designing. I may, however, be mistaken—I devoutly hope I am. God forbid that that day ever should arrive; but if it should, every sagacious and honest Thomsonian then living, will not be at a loss to discover the origin and where lies the criminality and guilt of that suicidal policy which destroyed the system. They will discover that it had its rise in the treachery and cupidity of its pretended friends, and that, through their agency, its villainous purpose was consummated. They will then realize the shameful fact, now so often predicted, that the aged and worthy founder of Thomsonism, trusting implicitly and in good faith to the honor and honesty of men calling themselves his supporters, was made a mere tool to subserve their dishonest practices—that they lived and fattened on his bounty until their hypocrisy and plunder became self-evident; and that when their benefactor shook off these vipers, they filched from him his *name*, that under the cloak of his hard-earned laurels they might build up their adulterated system on the ruins of his own. Such, in brief, will be the verdict of posterity; and it will afford another evidence of the humiliating truth in the history of human nature, that every true benefactor of his race must experience the persecution and villany of his age.

I appeal to the candor of the trespassers on Dr. Thomson's rights, if my observations are not correct? I would address the common sense of Messrs. Hale & Osgood, of this city, in confirmation of my views. I need not appeal to their sensibilities.—They have none. The lust of gain has congealed to ice the finer emotions of their hearts; and left them nothing, as it were, but the cold, calculating spirit of avarice. Money is their god, and Shylock their pattern and example. But they are not fools. They still have common sense; and in view of this fact, I would say to them—Gentlemen, by your reprehensible course of proceeding, you are destroying Thomsonism, and hourly evincing to the world your own shame and degradation. By what right, sirs, do you use the name of THOMSONIAN, and yet declare yourselves independent of Dr. Thomson, and even reproach him with compounding and selling spurious medicines?!!! Can the aggregate sins of ingratitude and deception overtop this? Did he give you the use of his name? No, you dare not say it. Then how *did* you obtain it, and by what right do you make use of it? I will answer for you; and the answer may be found in the violation of a certain command, promulgated by high authority—“*Thou shalt not covet any thing that is thy neighbor's.*” I have heard that you esteem yourselves Christians. But how do you construe the golden rule, “Do as

you would be done by?" Not, I fear, according to the manner and spirit of your Master. You present to the public the humiliating picture of what—*trespassers on the name and rights of an old grey-headed man bending under the weight of years, and crushed in spirit by the ingratitude of those who should have been his firmest friends!* For shame, gentlemen!—What must be the inference of a discerning public, in regard to your character and conduct? Why, that your own names are meritless, and that your medicines can find no sale except by using the name of Dr. Thomson. And this impression you are willing the public should entertain! This the extent of your ambition—to grow rich and distinguished, on the toils and vicissitudes of another, and *he* grey-headed and deeply-wronged old man! What craven-hearted, abject, sordid and contemptible things men become, when they have lost their honor!

I view the conduct of trespassers as tending directly to destroy the system; and it is therefore right and justifiable that they should be pointedly rebuked. Besides, it is positive injustice and fraud upon the Doctor himself. The treatment he has received at their hands, is not less marked by dishonesty than by treachery and ingratitude. It becomes the imperative duty, then, of every true and honest friend of the system to frown down such barefaced inexperience, whenever and wherever he may find it in existence. There is a strong and concentrated effort on the part of the trespassers, to get the system into their own hands, and thereby deprive the venerable founder of the honor and profit of his great discoveries. The attempt is infamous beyond description; and to arouse the energies of true Thomsonians to this alarming truth before it be too late, is the object of these remarks. I have no other interest at stake than the good of the cause and the desire to see imposition, treachery and ingratitude universally despised and punished. With Dr. Thomson I have no personal acquaintance whatever. I know him, however, as a public benefactor and an injured man; and as such I would put in my feeble plea in his defence. The cause of truth and justice demands it of me; and he who would not do as much is neither a genuine Thomsonian nor an honest man.

JUSTICE.

LETTERS FROM A YOUNG THOMSONIAN. No. I.

MR. EDITOR:—I promised you occasional contributions from my pen, and intend from time to time, if nothing prevents, to present them to your readers. My communications are intended for all, but more particularly for the good people of this section.

The Thomsonian cause is rapidly advancing in

this section, and I know the praiseworthy and benevolent purpose for which the system is intended, cannot fail to command the serious attention of the people of this community. Life is too precious to be hazarded, and we should all be careful to whom we commit the health of our bodies.

The calomelites have used every falsehood that their imagination could invent, to intimidate the people of this community from employing the Thomsonians, but they must have a very contemptible opinion of the people, if they expect that such falsehoods as they have circulated, can in the least deter the friends of medical reform from examining our system and testing the virtues of our medicines.

But I am looking forward to the day when I think that we shall completely supplant the mineral practice. I feel certain of victory from the encouragement that has already been given us. The calomelites of this county, (or at least a few of them) are trying another scheme to prevent the people from employing the Thomsonians:—that they will not attend where any of us have been called in; or even where any of our medicines have been used; but they have very much mistaken the spirit and intelligence of the people of this community, if they expect such an aristocratic notion as that can obtain favor; for we have imbibed too much of the doctrine of republicanism and the right of judging for themselves what physician to employ, what ticket to vote, and what church we will attend, to be trammelled on in this manner by a set of medical tyros who seek not to promote the health of their bodies, but conspire to control the freedom of their choice in selecting a physician. What! Shall we come to this? That we are to be judged for or controlled by any such a *class* as this? God forbid!

Go mercurialist, with thy self-sufficiency!

Thy delusive thoughts—thy unpleasing fantasy!

Give unto reason calm reflection;

List for a moment to thy false deceitful creed,

And 't will confound thee, both in word and deed.

The mineralites must be somewhat mentally affected; they must be under the influence of some mental aberration if they expect to force the republicans of *this* county to patronize their poisonous depleting antiplogistic practice, by such vain threats as they have uttered. No! Gentlemen, you are wrong! pursue some other plan. Strive to convince our understandings if you wish to succeed.—Come forward and convince us by good reason, common sense, and sound argument, that yours is the practice that claims the patronage of the people.

For one, I should oppose you to the last, for I am thoroughly and completely convinced that you are destroying more constitutions, yes, and killing more than you cure. Send your opium back to China,

and the remainder of your poisons to the different parts of Europe from whence they came, and adopt the Flora of your country in the cure of disease: the medicine which the God of nature designed for great and noble purposes. One of your greatest men (Dr. Rush) and the brightest ornament to the medical profession, said that the day would arrive when medical knowledge should have attained to that apex of perfection that it would be able to remove all the diseases of man, and leave not for life a single outlet, a single door of retreat, but old age; for such is my confidence, said he, in the benevolence of the Deity, that he has placed on earth remedies for all the maladies of man. We shall only look upon the venerable Thomson as his like. Dr. Ray said there are herbs to cure all diseases, though not every where known. Dr. Mitchell said the Flora of our country will yet so enlarge and establish her dominion, as to supercede the necessity of all other remedies.

J. M. G.

Eubanks, Ga. April, 1841.

☞ Dr. Thomson requests people in whose vicinity poplar, black cherry, and black birch grows, to gather a quantity of the bark of each of the above trees. Also the bitter herb balmony,—and those who can, to procure the oil of penny-royal, for which a fair price will be paid on delivery at No. 40 Salem street.

☞ The *New York State Thomsonian Medical Society* will meet at Albany, about the first of next month; and we understand it has been proposed to give a public dinner in honor of Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON. Dr. Thomson, we are informed, intends to visit his son about that time, if his health will admit, and it is probable will be present on the occasion, should it take place.

A HINT TO THE GIRLS.—We always considered it an unerring sign of innate vulgarity to hear ladies take particular pains to impress us with the idea of their ignorance of all domestic matters, save sewing lace or weaving a net to encase their delicate hands. Ladies, by some curious kind of hocus pocus, have got it into their heads that the best way to catch a husband is to show him how profoundly capable they are of doing nothing for his comfort. Frightening a piano into fits, or murdering the king's French, may be good bait for certain kinds of fish, but they must be of that small kind usually found in *very shallow water*. The surest way to get a good husband, is to cultivate those accomplishments which make a good wife.—[Ex. paper.]

☞ Here is a fact which should be borne in mind by parents:—

Opium (in the name of paregoric) has been almost exclusively administered for years to quiet the nerves and still restless children. Many a poor infant has suffered death by the administration of this deadly drug; and many a stupid head and stupified person has it sent into the world; not to speak of the multitudes it has sent out before their time. It is a most deadly drug, and seems to destroy the vital action of the system. Mothers who bear with their children while young, and refuse to administer this quieting but poisonous opiate, will be great gainers in the end.

MEDICAL ADVICE.—A gentleman farmer from a distant part of the country, either fancying there was some derangement in his system, or wishing, after he had seen the other sights of the metropolis, to visit one of its principal lions, Mr. Abernethy accordingly went to him.

"Do you take a good breakfast?" inquired M. Abernethy.

"Yes."

"You lunch?"

"Yes, I take luncheon."

"Do you eat a hearty dinner?"

"Pretty hearty."

"You take tea, I suppose?"

"Yes I do."

"And to wind up all, you sup, I should suppose?"

"Yes, I always sup."

"Why then, you beast," said Abernethy—"go home and eat less, and there will be nothing the matter with you."

TAKE CARE OF YOUR FEET.—Combe says, the circumstances in which wet feet and cold feet are most apt to cause diseases, are, when a person remains inactive, and when, consequently, there is nothing to counterbalance the unequal flow of blood which then takes place towards the internal parts; for it is well known that a person in ordinary health may walk about or work in the open air with wet feet for hours together, without injury, provided he put on dry stockings and shoes immediately on coming home. It is, therefore, not the mere state of wetness that causes the evil, but the check to perspiration, and the unequal distribution of blood to which the accompanying coldness gives rise.

☞ ERRATA.—In the communication signed "*Justice*," on page 205, for "and he grey-headed" read—and he a gray-headed, &c. For "barefaced inexperience," read barefaced *imposition*.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

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N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

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Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only places in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross street, and at No. 7 WATER STREET, near Washington street.

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [better than those which have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their better medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against a gang in Blackstone street calling themselves Thomsonians, with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmary at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman, whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheeps' clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The Infirmary and Store at No. 40 Salem st. are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.


Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

The following is a list of some of the medicines for sale at the above establishment, with their prices annexed:—

Cayenne,	\$1.00	per lb.	12½	cts.	per oz.
Composition Powder,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Conserve Hollyhock,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
" " Pills,	1.25	"	12½	"	"
Coffee, or coarse Bayb.	.50	"	12½	"	"
Cancer Plaster,			25	"	"
Golden Seal,	1.50	"	12½	"	"
Ginger, ground,	0.25				
Headache Snuff,	1.25	"	12½	"	"
Healing Salve,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Lobelia, green	2.00	"	25	"	"
Lobelia Seed, pulv.	3.00	"	25	"	"
Murrh Gum,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Nerve Powder,	2.50	"	20	"	"
Poplar Bark,	0.50	"	12½	"	"
Raspberry Leaves,	0.50	"	12½	"	"
Spiced Bitters,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Strengthening Plaster,	1.00	"	20	"	"
Slippery Elm Bark,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
" " pulv	1.05	"	12½	"	"
Unicorn Root,	2.50	"	25	"	"
Woman's Friend,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Volatile Salts,	1.50	"	25	"	per bot
Cough Syrup,	\$1.00	per bottle.			
No. 5 Syrup,	1.00	"			
Essences,	1.00	"	12½	cts.	per oz.

Nerve Ointment,	3.00	per bot.	25	"	"
Eye Water,			25	"	"
Meadow Fern Ointment,			25	"	"
Pepper Sauce,	0.42	"			
Rheumatic Drops,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Tincture Lobelia,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Third Preparation,	2.00	"	25	"	"
Vegetable Jelly,	1.00	"			
Wine Bitters,	0.75	"			

Dr. THOMSON will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be post paid or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltinore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles* and *Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.


Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, guin myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

 **NOTICE.**—Those persons who have received three or four numbers of the present volume of our paper, will bear in mind that they are responsible for the whole volume. We shall stop no more papers, until the subscriber pays what he already owes. This notice is given on account of papers being returned by subscribers, who have received and kept several numbers of the volume, and now request it discontinued. We can't do it till you pay up. Our first number contained our terms; and had you returned that paper, our acquaintance would have ceased; but as you did not, we shall stick to you till November, "like a chestnut burr to a sheep's back."

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“ Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, JUNE 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 14.

AN ANNIVERSARY ODE FOR DR. SAM'L THOMSON'S BIRTH-DAY.

Composed for February 9, 1841.

BY WM. HENRY FONERDEN, M. D.

Air,—“ The Star Spangled Banner.

What flag is that floats on the Granite State's
height,

Its folds in the breeze now so gracefully stream-
ing,

While far o'er the heavens, the silvery light,
Of a diamond-like star, insulated, is gleaming?
'The tyrant, Disease, when its motto he sees,
Lets fall his barb'd arrow, and coward-like
flees,

'Tis the banner of 'Thomson,—O long may it wave,
In triumph o'er death, and the gloom of the grave!

Say, whither go these,—the afflicted and wan,—
With hearts on which sorrow hath graven deep
traces?

For them hath no son of relief ever shone?
Hath science no remedy sickness that chases?
'Then whither go these worn down by disease,
Their eyes dim and lustreless, trembling their
knees?

To the banner of 'Thomson,—O long may it wave,
In triumph o'er death and the gloom of the grave.

Behold where it flutters as th' eagle for flight
Just ready, and pluming his sky-cleaving pinions,
Its motto emblazon'd in letters of light,—
“ Reform co-extensive with earth's wide domin-
ions !”

'That motto 's in sooth, the war cry of truth,
And birth-note of freedom to age and to youth,
'Tis the banner of 'Thomson,—O long may it
wave,
In triumph o'er death, and the gloom of the grave.

Then join we the 'larum, with trumpet's deep
tongue

Against the fell evils of medical error;
'Till he, from his throne of security flung,
Shall flee, as if flying the thunder peal's terror;
Our eye let us cast, while the struggle shall last,
And e'en when the loud burst of victory's past,
On the banner of Thomson,—O long may it wave,
In triumph o'er death, and the gloom of the grave.

Long, long as we hail the return of this day,
(Old Time of our progress e'er keeping strict
tally,)

A tribute of gratitude yearly we 'll pay,
While round the firm standard of Thomson
we 'll rally.

We 'll bless the glad morn, on which he was
born;

And medical science of mystery shorn.
By the banner of Thomson,—O long may it wave,
In triumph o'er death, and the gloom of the grave!

VOL. VII.,—NO. XIV.

EXTRACT FROM A LECTURE.

BY PROFESSOR BANKSTON.

ENEMAS.

Having gone through with the general action of evacuents upon the human system, and considered to some extent their particular indications, we shall now proceed to notice the various articles used for this purpose, and their relative merits, as well as the peculiar and particular cases in which each is demanded. And being governed by our general rule of considering the most important article first; we shall proceed at once to the consideration of the class standing at the head of our page.

From the earliest acquaintance that we have had with Thomsonism up to the present date, no remedy has seemed to be of such universal applicability in diseases of the bowels, as enemas.

This manner of applying remedial agents to the human system, as we have heretofore remarked, has been known and used for many centuries; but we are wholly indebted to Dr. S. Thomson for the manner and style in which they are usually employed by Thomsonians at the present day. In fact, we might say that their use was almost entirely dispensed with by every practical physician until their claims were so strenuously urged upon the community by this system of Medicine. Although many of the brightest minds of the age have adorned the pages of Medical history with their valuable discoveries in new remedies, and the application of old ones, yet it was left until the eighteenth century before this manner of introducing Medicines into the human system was fully understood and appreciated. The extensive surface of intestines to which the remedial agent may be applied, is sufficient reason to convince any one of their vast importance in many forms of disease. And we might say that there is hardly an exception of a general disease, but what may be more immediately and powerfully operated upon in this way than even by a mouth administration. The meandering condition of the small intestines, and their intimate connection and contiguous situation to the most prominent blood vessels of the system, renders them in every way the most proper and extensive conductors of Medical agents to the whole economy.

This is more particularly the case where an immediate influence is sought. Many Medicines through which a certain and prompt action could be produced, have been sought, sa-

the application of Mercurial Ointment, &c. but none yet discovered, may be depended upon with such certainty, under as great a variety of difficult circumstances. Even where life is seemingly suspended, and deglutition entirely out of the question, this remedy may be applied in this manner without the least difficulty, again: where the stomach may refuse to retain any substance whatever sufficiently long to impart its effects to the economy, which is often the case in Cholera and Cholera Morbus, this means may be resorted to with the greatest certainty of producing the desired result. It is sometimes very difficult to bring the system fully under the influence of a certain remedy; for instance, suppose you are desirous of completely relaxing the whole animal economy with Thomsonian Emetica and wish to accomplish it in a short space of time, and with the least possible debility to the patient, here you would find that your most sanguine wishes could be brought to bear without the least difficulty, and with a much smaller quantity, than could possibly be made to answer by the mouth alone. So complete and extensive relaxation by operating on the stomach alone, must in most cases require considerable time, and will evidently require a very extensive relaxation of that organ, one which may under some circumstances prove injurious in the future progress of the disease.—The principle is this; the stomach having to take up a sufficiency of the relaxing principle to produce its full effects upon the whole system, must it seems become over charged with it, and might undergo too great and protracted a relaxation and become injured. For the human organs might very justly be compared to an imperfectly tempered spring, it will bear bending to a certain extent, but go beyond that and it will not resume its former position. So with the human economy; it may be relaxed so far, but you must not go too far and continue it too long. If you do, the principle of life, as the temper in the spring, may yield or prove insufficient.

In the relief of violent pains of the abdominal region, it must seem evident to all, that such application as would prove an antidote given by mouth, would prove doubly so by enema. For the nature or action of the Medicine is not at all changed by this change of application, the great object being to bring it in contact with the absorbing vessels of the human body in its purest state; and this can evidently be done most effectually by applying it to those parts containing the greatest number of those vessels.—Though our principles teach a general action upon the human system for the relief of disease, though it may be local, which in every sense of the position is strictly correct; yet it is all im-

portant under many circumstances of disease that a greater determination of Medicine should be had to one part than another, in such cases, should that part be the abdomen, or parts contiguous thereto, the most ignorant must see the propriety of administering in this way.

When the fact is taken into consideration that every effect which Medicine is calculated to produce when given internally can be produced by this kind of administration, it must at once claim a superiority in many cases over all other plans of conveying medicinal agents into the human system. The most effectual emetics which are or can be given, is given by enema. This doctrine to some may seem new and even strange, but such must recollect that our whole system is new, yet not strange, for it is perfectly natural and will be found such to all who closely study her laws. It is in her footsteps that we walk. It is upon this newness that we claim our superiority. Emetics when given in this way, produce a more decided salutary influence, upon the whole system. By being introduced perano and taking impression from thence to the stomach, and more particularly upon that organ it must follow that its influences must be more extensively felt, than if given in the usual way.

There are some who prefer taking emetics in this way, simply to avoid realizing the nauseous taste, which attend the use of most, if not all emetic applications.

For the purpose of keeping up a slight relaxation of the system, and particularly in cases where the disease partakes of the enteretic character, this would be decidedly the preferable way of administration.

In some cases of inflammatory action of the lower viscera and urinary organs, I have had the very happiest effects follow enemas composed of composition, No. 6, lobelia, and slippery-elm.—Laboring under a disease of this character myself, I resorted to no other treatment, except the slight use of a decoction of sumach and slippery-elm, which afforded the most prompt and satisfactory relief in a short space of time.

We have remarked that this manner of using medicinal agents to any considerable extent in this country, was not practiced until urged upon the attention of the community by Dr. S. Thomson; and we might farther add, that since the general introduction of his works much more attention has been paid to them by even the professed opposers of his doctrines. In confirmation of this, we only need introduce the remarks of Professor Dungleson on this subject. He says, speaking of cathartics, "they may likewise, be exhibited to act on the lower portion of the intestinal tube by direct application. In this form they are termed cathartic clysters, en-

ematæ, &c. When thrown in contact with the living membrane of the rectum," they, says he, "irritate it," but we should say in more proper language, when speaking of the effect produced with our remedies, they stimulate it; "and by sympathy of continuity, their influence is extended to the upper portion of the tube. Hence they may be administered with advantage, when cathartics cannot be given by the mouth, as when deglutition is impracticable. Accordingly in apoplexy, trismus, &c., this is a mode of exhibiting purgatives and other remedies often had recourse to. It is obvious too, that clysters may be given with advantage to aid the operation of cathartics, in cases of extreme debility, in which apprehension is entertained, that cathartics administered in the usual way, might act too powerfully, clysters can be administered as a substitute. They are indeed, most valuable agents, and until of late, have been too little employed in this country, as well as in Great Britain; but on the continent of Europe, they form a part of the *bourdoir* of every female, and are regarded indispensable to cleanliness and health." And he further observes, that in some of the theatrical performances of Europe, the performer "enters on the stage reading his apothecary's bill—in which the clyster and its adaptation occur over and over again, without any feeling arising of outraged delicacy; whilst with us the slightest allusion to the operation or the instrument cannot be mentioned to ears polite." In speaking of the effects of these applications, he says, "they are often used for the purpose of stimulating the parts to greater action, in which case the oil of turpentine may be used mixed with the other constituents of the enema."

"When clysters are administered by the ordinary bag and pipe, they rarely go farther than the rectum, and therefore at times, fail altogether in their operation." The syringe generally employed by Thomsonians, however, is capable of propelling the enema farther, but at times these fail in accomplishing the object as readily as might be wished, or indeed, as in some cases are absolutely necessary, "especially where there is any thing like spasmodic action at the termination of the sigmoid flexure of the colon," as is sometimes the case. For the purpose of overcoming the difficulty, and insuring an action from their use, which I consider no small desideratum, a gum elastic tube should be connected with an additional pipe, and in difficult cases of obstruction this could be introduced as much at least as twelve inches, and by that means the injection with certainty could be made to directly reach any obstruction within the intestines.

In colic and other spasmodic diseases of the

vicera, it appears to me, this would be most an admirable arrangement, and in no case could fail in relieving the more urgent symptoms. I have myself known some cases where passages could not be effected, even by repeated exhibitions of our stimulating and relaxing enemas, and many cases where they could not be effected, so much as was desirable, or as would have been profitable. Professor Dungleson, also relates a case where numerous injections were tried without effecting any passage, while the symptoms were rapidly increasing, until he finally resorted to the simple introduction of a large male catheter following which was an extensive evacuation of fœtid gas through the tube, and the consequence was immediate relief.

By a very slight expense a tube of this character might be attached to our large syringes, which could be used when necessity demanded it, and when not, the syringe could be used with another pipe.

There are cases occasionally occurring which are marked by very violent pains, contractions, &c. of the upper portion of the abdominal viscera, which could, in my judgment, be instantaneously relieved by the application of a stimulating enema well charged with Thomsonian emetica applied through this instrument.

Professor Curtis, with many others, are of opinion, that it is sometimes the case, that hard fecal accumulations occur in the upper portion of the intestinal canal which are not readily removed by the ordinary applications of this character; not because when brought in contact with such accumulations, they are incapable of removing it, for this is seldom, if ever the case; but owing to the difficulty in getting the medicine to reach it, or even to extend any considerable relaxing influence that far. It is sometimes a matter of much moment, to effect such evacuations without subjecting the patient to the depletive action of an ordinary evacuent, or to the usual depletion following of a general relaxation of the system, &c. In these cases, I think an instrument of this character would prove of the utmost benefit.

An apparatus of this character, would also greatly facilitate the action of our emetic when given by enema, hence would prove of the utmost importance, when it become necessary, from any cause whatever to use an emetic in this way.

The quantity of fluid to be administered as an enema, should be governed principally by the circumstances and character of the disease, for the removal of which they are administered; if simply for the purpose of increasing the action of the rectum, a small quantity will be sufficient, but if intended to extend farther the quantity should be increased; or if in connection with other ob-

jects, you should wish to extend a general stimulus to the system, a considerable quantity should be used, as also when an emetic effect is desired.

A given quantity of any substance will certainly be taken up much more rapidly when brought in contact with an extensive surface, than when confined to a very small one; hence the importance of diffusing our medicinal substances, in a considerable quantity of fluid, so that it may come in contact with an extensive surface.

Under ordinary circumstances about the following quantity will be found sufficient. For infants, from two to four ounces. For adults, from one to two pints. To attempt to use a half pint syringe in ordinary practice, as some do, I consider nothing short of courting a failure of the object sought. No practitioner should be content with a smaller sized instrument than a pint. And he will frequently find it necessary to repeat them several times, particularly where the object is to produce a general effect, without regard to the character of that effect.

Injections, as we may usually term them, may be composed of various articles. The mineral faculty, as I have probably more than once observed, have but few objects in view, in administering enemas, but the Thomsonian fraternity generally use them for the same purpose that they administer by the mouth, hence the propriety of using in them just such medicines as will produce on the system those effects that we are desirous of seeing exhibited. I don't now recollect of any medicine which is profitable when administered in the usual way, but is admissible in this. Hence when any difficulty arises in administering by the mouth, the well-informed Thomsonian does not consider himself defeated, but resorts to his syringe.

For a common injection where the object is to stimulate the general system, produce diaphoresis &c. I have found the simple composition of usual strength with two teaspoonfulls of No. 6, with or without tincture of Lobelia, to answer admirably well, and owing to its convenience, I most generally use it. In all cases where much inflammation is present, slippery-elm should be added and the Lobelia used freely, sufficiently so to produce considerable nausea. This course with the usual remedies used by the mouth, I have found admirably successful.

With irritable habits particularly, it is difficult to induce the patient to retain them long enough, for them to effect any considerable good.—Where you find this the case, they should be made less stimulating and the patient should be urged upon to retain them even at the expense of a disposition otherwise, for from three to five

minutes after which, there is generally but little difficulty in retaining them for half an hour

BLISTERS.

The precise time, and by whom, blisters were first introduced into practice, we are not able to determine. Previous to the discovery of the vesicating power of Spanish flies, various powerful stimulants or escharotics were employed for that purpose. Since the introduction of this article they have been, and are yet very extensively employed, and their use is strongly recommended in almost every derangement of an abdominal organ, as well as inflammation of the lungs and pleura. Likewise in fevers, and a vast variety of complaints. Yet there are numerous instances of the evils produced by them. On some constitutions a poisonous impression is made, attended with frequent pulse, dryness of the mouth and fauces, heat of the skin, nervousness and stranguary, and even convulsions: and some physicians have been so much alarmed, by the occasional occurrences of these symptoms, as to induce them to employ the remedy with great hesitation. That these affections result from the absorption of the active and irritative principles of cantharides into the circulation, there can be no question. But the above admitted evils, are not to be compared with the mischievous consequences too frequently resulting from their use. The human system is at all times more or less impregnated with that morbid matter, which is constantly carried through the system by the circulation, which is capable of engendering disease.—Therefore, by placing a blister over any organ, that organ becomes weakened, or so far debilitated as to render it incapable to resist the influence of this morbid matter. Such organ is thereby in a condition not to resist, but to become the convenient receptacle, for whatever train of morbid humor may be forming in the system. How frequently is it the case, where an individual has had a blister placed over the region of the Liver; that, upon the occurrence of any slight change of the atmosphere, or, having taken a slight cold, that the first sensation of pain will be experienced in that part. In Pulmonary Consumption, what action can be more conducive to the permanent establishment of that disease, than a blister over the thorax? How long ere an affection of the Lungs would accrue, in that individual most free from it, by placing a blister over the chest. Like bleeding, urgent symptoms may be relieved by them: yet it predisposes to permanent injury, by the determination which it creates of the fluids to the blistered part. A little reflection will convince us of its utter uselessness in Consumption, when we consider the little influence it can possibly

have upon the lungs. The lungs hang in the chest, they have no connection with it, and are only attached to the chest by the pulmonary vessels; and to the neck by the wind-pipe. Of the evils of blistering, the cases are numerous. Of all the afflictions to which mankind are liable, none is so appalling to the humane and sensitive physician as that produced by burns. Few out of the pale of the profession are aware how frequently, 'burns apparently trivial and insignificant, are followed by fatal results; preceded in some by symptoms of a decidedly typhoid character, in others, disturbance of the mental functions amounting even to madness, and again, not unfrequently are the symptoms so fallacious as to deceive any but the most experienced in prognosis, in regard to the fatal event. Now, if there be so much danger from inflammation of the capillary nerves by fire, how can the same effect be free from danger, when produced by blisters? Does not pathology daily prove to us that the cutaneous system is more acutely sensitive than any other organ. To follow nature, to produce a natural determination to the surface of the body is consistent and proper, such is the course nature pursues in a state of health. But who will assert, that an ulcerated and suppurative surface is a healthy action of nature? Will the advocates of blistering contend that nature frequently produces ulcers on the surface of his body, and so relieves internal affections? We contend, if the various outlets of the body are not destined to carry off excretions of the body peculiar to their offices, why has nature ordained more than one emunctory? Would they defend the doctrine by asserting that so long as it be evacuated, it matters not by what emunctory it be done. Is nature's course always beneficial? This is, when unperverted by unfavorable circumstances, true: but when perverted, does it not pursue a course leading to death? They would be unwilling to deny this, as it leaves the treatment pursued entirely, and only chargeable with the fatal result. So numerous and so well founded are the objections against blisters, that it is matter of wonder, that they have not been long since exploded.

That the action of cantharides produces inflammation of the bladder by symptoms of strangury, is universally conceded. Is there any proof of its morbid influence being confined to the bladder? How does it produce these deleterious effects? Is it not by absorption? Why may they not by these means be carried to any other organ?

The deleterious effects complained of, are such, as reasoning a priori, might be expected from such a medicine passing quickly through the system. But when carried to other parts, the effects would be more gradually developed,

so as to obscure the fact. We can see no reason for doubting the liability of its producing ulceration in any other organs; especially, if that organ be susceptible from previous irritation, to greater excitability.

In order to show that we are not singular in our opinions respecting blisters, but that others entertain views in some respects similar, we will close our remarks on this subject by the following quotation from Dr. Miller, Professor of the Institute and Practice of Medicine in the Washington Medical College of Baltimore, in his observations on those states of the system threatening Pulmonary Consumption.

"We unquestionably expose ourselves to the imputation of presumption in questioning the propriety of a practice rendered common by the sanction of much and high authority; yet, nevertheless, we unhesitatingly raise our hands against blistering the breast in any stage of pulmonary consumption, and especially in those conditions of the system threatening this formidable disease.

When the lungs have become debilitated from any cause, we only farther embarrass their action by voluntarily restricting the movements of respiration, to avoid the pain and irritation consequent upon motion of a vesicated surface. Nay, more, the muscles under a blister seem to be deprived of the power of contraction, and to breathe at all, demands an effort. Blisters invite disease to their seats, either by stimulating to new action, or on the principle that *pars dolens trahit*: and, as is well known, any part previously debilitated is in a condition not to resist, but to become the convenient location and rendezvous of whatever train of morbid actions may be forming in the system.

We blister either to deplete or stimulate.—Can a blister over the thorax deplete directly from the lungs? Anatomy, experience, common sense say no. Can they stimulate them directly? Every thing gives the same response. Then why blister? To draw off morbid excitement from an important organ to a less essential structure: if so, then why not transfer to a part which has no direct concern in the transactions of the diseased organ?"—[Native Physician.

QUACKERY.—On opening an American newspaper, it is not to be wondered at, that the first idea which strikes a foreigner is, we are a nation of quacks. From one extremity of our country to the other—in city, town or village—wherever there is a journal established—you will find it filled with conspicuous advertisements, recommending quack medicines as a sovereign remedy for all the "ills which flesh is heir to." It would seem, if a person were so un-

fortunate as to have any disease or slight illness, it was produced solely by his own folly in not purchasing the remedies prescribed—invariably held up as certain and effectual cures for the diseases incident to mortality. In many cases you will find by running your eyes over these advertisements, that it is absolutely necessary, at certain seasons of the year, or at specified periods of life, to take these medicines to prevent the liability to disease. All these recommendations, puffs, etc. which disgrace the journals of our country, and impose upon the credulous and the uninformed poor, are base impositions—spread before the public for the sole purpose of making money. A little thought and reflection will so convince every candid mind. Having seen and read papers from all parts of the country, we find several hundred different kinds of medicines, in the shape of pills, drops, syrups, plasters, candies, &c. advertised as certain cures for real and imaginary diseases. To be sure different language is adopted in their advertisements, but to a discerning mind they will be seen to have the same meaning, and blazoned forth for the same object. Can it be that all this stuff—called by about five hundred different names—each and every kind—cures all the diseases of the flesh? The simple answer to this question must convince you that it is your money and not your health, for which these thousands of quacks are laboring. We verily believe that not one kind of medicine in a hundred, thus brought into notice, will produce the least beneficial results, but on the contrary be injurious to the system, and in many instances, produce chronic diseases and premature death.

A few years ago a young Englishman, by the name of Anson, was an under servant in a large pill establishment in London, where he received trifling pay; but he managed to lay by sufficient funds to bring him to this country. He arrived at New York—called himself Dr. Brandreth, from London—said he was a grandson of a distinguished Dr. by that name, who died some years since. He was so extremely ignorant, that he wrote his name, or scratched it rather, “Dr. Benjamin Brandreth, M. D.” He hired an office—made pills—advertised them pretty freely—and now they are all over the country. By such empiricism, this individual, whose real name is Anson, has obtained the cognomen of “Prince of Quacks,” and has accumulated a handsome fortune, while not one in a thousand who has taken his pills, has any doubts of his being a regular physician. Such is the success of quackery—and in this manner are the American people gulled, when if known, they themselves of brown bread and aloes could make a better pill. Mr. A. alias Dr. B. in the course of time opened a shop in Philadelphia,

for the sale of his medicine, and appointed a man by the name of Wright as his sole agent. In a short time the Dr. and he quarrelled—had a newspaper controversy—the result of which was Mr. W. set up for himself—made a new pill, or rather gave a new name to an old one, calling it the “Indian Purgative Pill,” advertised it freely, employed agents, &c. and now it is used pretty extensively as an INDIAN medicine, when probably not a son of the forest knows of its existence.

In a similar way nearly all the medicines advertised so extensively, and recommended so extravagantly for their intrinsic virtues were first brought into existence. Should the thousand pills of different names daily vended in this country and swallowed by the dozen, be analyzed by the nicest process, they would be found to contain nearly the same ingredients.

The “Matchless Sanative,” said to be a German invention, was sold in very small vials, at the moderate price of two dollars and fifty cents, as a certain cure for the consumption. It was nothing more, be believe, than sweetened water, and yet hundreds were induced to buy it, because its price was so exorbitant, presuming by this that its virtues were rare—and many a poor widow was drained of her last farthing to obtain this worthless stuff. Even the Sanative, in its conspicuous advertisements, was not lacking in lengthy recommendations of its superlative virtues—throwing all other medicines far into the shade.

Our advice is—and every judicious man and experienced physician will join us—have as little to do as possible with medicines that are conspicuously advertised and recommended by scores of individuals who never existed. Regular hours—a spare diet—mild exercise, and a cheerful disposition are the best medicine in creation. Partake of this and you will need no physician—pass your days in peace and quietness, and every earthly blessing will attend your course.—[Portland Tribune.]

USEFUL EDUCATION.

We put the question in reference to the great body of American youth who are to earn their bread by the sweat of their brows, and to wield the future destinies of our country. Two principles should be aimed at—to *provide for themselves honorably*, under any ordinary contingencies—and to *qualify themselves to become useful to society*. The times, as well as universal experience, abundantly admonish us that, however the children of wealth may indulge in indolence and dissipation, while their means last—the great mass of American youth must and ought, to depend upon their labor for their fortunes and usefulness. Fortune is at best precarious—pat-

rimonial dependencies are uncertain, and reliance upon the friendship or charity of the world, or upon office, is frail and often debasing. Self-dependence is the only sure stay.

We are ever most willing to help those who help themselves. Productive labor is the legitimate source of all the wealth, individual and national—and this labor is profitable to the individual and to the nation in proportion to the measure of intelligence and scientific knowledge which guides and directs its operations. Hence it is of primary importance that our youth should be efficiently taught to labor, and that their minds should be imbued with that kind of knowledge which will instruct them in the principles of their business, render it honorable, and make them independent in conduct and in fortune.

We have, to be sure, colleges and academies more than can be well supported, or that can be made economical and useful. But these are in a measure consecrated to the learned profession—to the privileged few—for they are privileged, inasmuch as they are the exclusive recipients of public bounty in the higher branches of learning. Productive labor derives little or no advantage from their teaching. Few of the youth who enter their halls, ever seek for a livelihood in the laboring arts. They learn to look upon labor as servile and demeaning, and seek their living in what they consider the higher classes of society. They do not go to these schools to learn to work or to learn to live by work—in the common meaning of these terms—but to learn to live without work or above work. They are virtually withdrawn from the producing classes. These young aspirants flock to the learned professions, and the genteel employments, as the avenues to honors and office; and notwithstanding the laborer is taxed heavily, in one way or another, to supply their real or imaginary wants, yet the genteel professions have become overstocked, and the threshold of power so thronged with applicants, that hundreds and thousands are thrown back, as parasites upon society, exhibiting the melancholy spectacle of men born to be useful, but unable or unwilling, from the bias of a wrong education, to become so. Had these men been taught to look upon labor as it truly is, a necessary, healthful, independent, and honorable employment, and been instructed in its principle and practice, while young, they would have cherished its interests, respected its virtues, and cheerfully shared in its toils and its pleasures. We seek not, by these remarks, to pull down that which is, but to build that which is not. It is not that we would have a part less, but the whole more. We would raise the standard of labor, without depressing that of literature.

We have common schools too, munificently endowed, where all may acquire the elements

of knowledge, but the rudiments only. They teach nothing of the sciences which are necessary to the success in prosecution of the arts—and give no instruction for the best models of practice. They neither learn the boy how to provide for himself, nor fit him for extensive usefulness. They lay the foundation, but they do not build up and beautify the temple.

Who will tell us why it is, that classic schools, available only to those who design to live without labor, are made the special and exclusive objects of legislative bounty, in regard to the higher branches of instruction? Why is it, that six or seven thousand youth, which is about the number in our colleges and academies, should receive gratuities from the public treasury, till the aggregate exceed three millions of dollars, to enable them to live without work, while half a million of other youth, with like capacities and like claims, destined to labor, and to augment the resources, the wealth, and the happiness of their country, are denied a miserable pittance, in the higher branches of knowledge, to qualify them for their more important duties in society? Is not knowledge as beneficial to the arts of labor as it is to the learned profession? Is it not as efficiently and beneficially applied in developing the riches of the earth, in perfecting the mechanic and manufacturing arts, and in augmenting the products and profits of labor generally, as it is in the warfare of party politics, in the chicanery of the law, and in prolonging unprofitable debate in legislative halls? May not natural science be as profitably studied and applied on the farm, where nature is constantly presenting new subjects of illustration and application, as in the town or in the closet? Is not chemistry, which instructs in the nature and properties of all bodies, as useful to the farmer, in ascertaining the qualities of his soils, and their adaptation to particular crops, and in regulating the multifarious operations of husbandry—and to the artizan, in managing his various processes, as it is to the lawyer, the statesman, or the divine? There is probably no employment in life that embraces so wide a scope of useful study as that of cultivating the soil. The great use and end of science, is to improve art, to impress us with a sense of our obligation and our duty to man.—In truth, science belongs to, and constitutes an integral portion of the arts, and cannot be divorced from them without throwing us back into a state of semi-barbarianism, such as now debases a great portion of the population of the old continent. Why then teach science exclusively to the few, who have comparatively so little use for it, and withhold it from the many, to whom it would be a help and a guide.

We look to Europe for precedents, and blind-

ly adopt those that are prejudicial, as well as many that are good. We forget that we are a new people in government, manners, and law, and that there is no country which will serve, as ours, a model in all cases. The education bestowed upon the working classes in Europe, is designed to qualify them for the subordinate stations in society—for labor and obedience, as subjects. Their government recognizes a privileged class—who are the owners of the soil, and live upon the labors of the many. The working classes have very little to do with the affairs of government, here all are professedly upon a footing of equality. All enjoy political rights, and have political duties to perform—and all should be equally favored, so far as the public bounty is dispensed in the means of obtaining useful knowledge, and of acquiring wealth, and honors. We should take care to have good farmers and good mechanics, as well as good lawyers and good doctors. We want not only good subjects, but intelligent *freemen*—high-minded, independent freemen, who know their rights, and knowing, dare maintain them. We wish to keep the fountain pure, that the stream of power may not become defiled. We wish to base our political and social fabric upon a rock, steadfast and sure—upon the intelligence, industry, and moral rectitude of the great working community. When this class cease to exert a healthful and controlling influence in political affairs, our boasted freedom will be at an end. A privileged class, whom the bounty of government has assisted to arm with exclusive power, will control and direct the political machine, as may best subserve their aggrandizing views, with regard to the common weal.

Ambition is the same in all ages and countries. Man loves power, and is corrupted by it and in its prolonged exercise the servant will ever swell into the master. Our freedom can only be securely guarded by the vigilance of an enlightened, independent, prosperous yeomanry.

Men have tried all sorts of expedients, for thousands of years, to obtain wealth and happiness; and after all it has become pretty evident, that there is no course that wears so well, that is so self-approving, that is so certain in its success, that gives so much health, contentment, and independence—the substantial elements of happiness—as habitual industry, tempered and directed by a cultivated mind, be it in the learned or laboring profession. The consciousness that we are not only providing for ourselves, and those naturally dependant upon us, but that we are doing good to society, and thereby fulfilling one of our highest moral obligations, is a rich source of enjoyment, in which the indolent and dissipated mass ever remain utter strangers.

We say, therefore, that we want schools of moral, industrious, and scientific instruction, for the working classes of society, and that their establishment would conduce alike to the prosperity of the country, and to perpetuity of our political and religious freedom.—[Mil. Har.]

A SECRET WORTH KNOWING.—When, on your comfortable bed, you are just getting into that dreamy, poetical state which precedes sleep, and you receive a stab under the fifth rib, by one of those nocturnal surgeons, called Bed-bugs, never put your finger on the wounded part to catch the assassin, but rub your finger on the bed opposite to the place bitten, and you'll be sure to save him. You need only put your finger to your nose, to ascertain the fact that you have been too cunning for him. Now, flea-botomy, the physicians say, is beneficial when a man is too plethoric; but I never did like to be chintz botomized, though there is nothing which understands surgery better than a Bed Bug, for the way he can surge his needle nose into a vein, is a caution to mosquitoes. He is like many two legged assassins, who stab you in the dark and will not meet you face to face. I have made this discovery, and promulgate it, for the benefit of suffering humanity. It is a good plan to salivate these night prowlers with mercurial ointment, and swell up their gums so that they cannot bite. *Salivation* to them is *salvation* to yourself.—[Baltimore Clipper.]

DESTRUCTION OF THE ROSE. A premium offered.—The Massachusetts Horticultural Society has offered a premium of \$150 to the author of the best method of destroying the slug which infests the rose bush without injury to the bush or its foliage—We say, set some idle person to watch the bush and kill the slugs as soon as they crawl on. This will neither hurt the bush nor the flower. The Society will please to send us the premium to Harrisburgh, immediately, as we need a hundred dollars.—[Gospel Pub.]

INDUSTRIOUS WOMAN.—Talk, indeed of your pantomines and gaudy shows; your processions and installations and coronations! Give me, for a beautiful sight, a neat and smart woman, heating her own oven and setting her bread in! And, if the bustle does make the sign of labour glisten on her brow, where is the man that would not kiss that off, rather than lick the plaster from the cheek of a duchess.

A judge and a party of lawyers on the circuit in Tennessee, lost their way about evening; the judge rode up to a house to enquire the road to the next town, of a little girl, who was the only person in sight—her only reply was “we is got young tukkes.”

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, JUNE 1, 1841.

DEATH OF PRESIDENT HARRISON.

We cannot help recurring again to the sudden and unexpected decease of the late President. It is an event which will do much to set people to reflecting on the incapability of men to remove disease and raise the sick, be their literature and research ever so deep, unless they have *medicines* of a healthy nature, and know how to practice on the principle of *Life*. An event which is so intimately connected with the whole union, as was the sacrificing of President Harrison, on the altar of medical superstition, will open the eyes of thousands of people, to the importance of examining into the nature and tendency of the different theories of medical practice now in existence. And it will open the way for Thomsonism to many families who would otherwise have remained contented with their "old family doctor."

General Harrison, it appears was in the enjoyment of his usual *good health* previous to his attack of a sickness, which for want of correct treatment, put an end to his life in the short space of *one week*! Think of that. He had the *best* advisors we presume, which the ranks of the old depletive system could produce; but their art could not save him,—his vigor was worn down with toil, his rest had been broken by the hungry hunting-asses of office, and when distressing disease fastened upon him, his physicians were so foolish as to take his blood—either by lancet or cupping—when nature required all he had for support!!

They should have put that venerable man to bed, had him warmed to impart active circulation, by the free application of steam; administered some medicines of a warming nature (say No. 3,) to throw off obstructions, and prepare him for some article of medicine to thoroughly cleanse his stomach of bad matter; kept from him his tor-

menting friends for a few days; given him tonics to impart to his frame new energy, and he would now have been among us. But with all their great knowledge of the human machine, and acquaintance with the niceties of scientific treatment, it is evident they did *not* know how to treat his case. He has gone from us; and his death is another proof of the inability of the depletive system to remove disease.

The Medical Reformer, a paper published in Philadelphia, in noticing the death of President Harrison makes the following remarks:—

"The President caught a SLIGHT COLD, was attacked with symptoms of *Pleurisy*, was doctored for Congested Liver, Pneumonia and *Pleurisy*; all three symptoms were prescribed for at once, and it is obvious by the Report, that he *was run down by bleeding, mercury, and other poisonous drugs*. In attempting to allay the inflammatory action, (deranged state of *natural heat*) he was bled, blistered and cupped, thereby reducing *vitality* and of course his strength. Mercury was given, (no doubt profusely,) with a view to rectify that important gland, the liver, which failing to do, attacked the stomach, and brought about "the *fatal diarrhœa*" spoken of in the report. Thus have we to record, side by side, with Gen. Washington, Joseph Parrish, and other highly distinguished men, the sad evidences of the fallacy of the old mineral and bleeding system of medical practice.

"In conclusion, we copy the following extracts from the 'Philadelphia Gazette,' edited by Willis G. Clark, Esq., a gentleman who has, on more occasions than one, raised a warning voice against the *fatal practice of bleeding* in cases of disease. Would the Press generally, canvass more freely matters of so much importance to the community, they would render essential benefit to the cause of suffering humanity.

"With regard to the *causes* of the lamented death of the late President and General of our Union, sufficient has been told, and perhaps but little need be said. Yet we cannot refrain from believing that the first and most rapid propulsion which the deceased received towards his coffin and his grave, was the indiscrete and injudicious bleeding, which he was compelled by 'advice' to undergo. One of the most distinguished doctors of New York, when he heard that the President had the bilious pleurisy, and that his first advisers had been *bleeding* him, observed—"They know not what they have done—BUT THEY HAVE KILLED HIM. He never can support the natural debility proceeding from his disease, with that loss of his aged forces. They leave him with

his malady perhaps not at its height, and the strength to resist it, all taken away."

Has not the melancholy event which we are all now deploring, proved the truth of these observations? It furnishes another argument, and one which from its eminence should carry double weight with it—against the practice of indiscriminate depletion, so common a few years ago, and far too frequent now. We have long lifted up our feeble though *lay* voice, against it, impressed by many instances in others, and some experience of our own. * * * *

"It would seem from the medical manifesto issued at Washington after the death of the President, that blood-letting was not specially resorted to in his case; and yet the official bulletins issued before, all stated the contrary. We still think they were true, and neither the spirit nor the letter of the manifesto controverts them in fact. The celebrated physician in New York, whose opinion we quoted on the subject, has desired that we should offer his precise language.

"He stated, that from the newspapers he had derived the information that the President's disease was the Bilious Pleurisy, and that he had been *bled*, that a disease called the Bilious Pleurisy by some, Pneumonia Typhodes and Malignant Pleurisy, by others, prevailed as an epidemic in the northern section of our country in the winters of 1812 and 1813, which he considered to be the same disease. *Experience proved bleeding at that time to be very injurious, and often fatal.* It was therefore abandoned, and recourse had to *emetics* and *cathartics*—[Cathartics are injurious, and should also be dispensed with; they always weaken the system, and cause more or less pain.—Ed. Manual.]—and other aids, which perfectly succeeded; that if bleeding had been freely used in the President's case, and newspaper information be correct, the practice was very injudicious and *injurious*."

Now if these first Washington bulletins were true, all these strictures hold good. The case is one which merits explanation, and ought to receive it."

☞ It is often amusing to hear the regular doctors censure those who do not belong to their party, for acts that they themselves are guilty of. It is well known, that many of the regulars give medicines in cases of debility and lowness of spirits, that are of no good at all to the invalid, except to quiet his mind with the idea that he is under the doctor's care, and that certainly the medicine must be beneficial. Thus deluding his victim with a sure decoy to death; while himself

grasps at the property which disconsolate friends should have had for their portion. In many of the cases thus treated which terminate fatally, and where the doctor takes what of effects his patient leaves, the victim to his art would have speedily recovered under good treatment.

Again, there are those who use purgatives, and blisters, and poisons, and the lancet; the very thing to debilitate and break down a constitution, and thus bolster up with hope and delusion their victim, until he is past relief,—then they claim the slender portion left for the widow and orphans. But had they used the means intended by nature, their patient would have speedily recovered to be useful and happy.

We make these remarks from seeing in the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, a paper respecting the *Matchless-Sanative*, and Dr. Brandreth's Pills, the first of which the writer says is harmless, but the latter is not to be "trifled with." Like mercury, we suppose they are *good in scientific hands!*?

It will be seen, from the writer's remarks, which we insert, that in his vicinity people were in the habit of using Brandreth's pills, when attacked with typhus fever, and then calling a physician. We should think if ever they needed a *physician*, then would be the time, but not a *mineral doctor*. Mr. "W. P." had taken three of these pills, and the writer would intimate that they terminated his existence. Now we have nothing to do with Brandreth nor any other purger—but we dare say the pills were as good for medicines, as was that which the attending physician prescribed for the man.—He does not tell us what they did for the sufferer, but that when he saw him, (the patient) it appeared that the *resources of medicine* had been exhausted upon him, &c. Now we do not believe that a particle of *medicine* had been used—nothing but poison added to poison! We ask—had the Thomsonian remedies been applied? We can almost answer no!

THE MATCHLESS SANATIVE AND BRANDRETH'S PILLS.

To the Editor of the Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.

SIR,—The newspapers of the present day exhibit abundant proof that the invalid is beset with snares on every side. So long as he keeps his eyes shut and his mouth open, he will be liable to swallow some of the thousand humbugs which are continually buzzing about him. Be it then our object to open his eyes; having done this, he will not only shut his mouth as a matter of course, but will begin to apply his reasoning faculties to this

subject as he does to all others; a salutary skepticism will then take the place of easy credulity, and he will be astonished that he could ever have been drawn into such a miserable gull-trap as that from which he has just escaped.

But inasmuch as it requires less effort to transcribe than to furnish original matter, I will favor you with a short extract from the Daily Atlas—not garbled, but entire. “*The cures effected by the Matchless Sanative, we find have convinced the most prejudiced that the medicine is truly valuable.—tf.*” That the mystical letters *tf* are never appended to an editorial article, is perfectly understood by the editorial fraternity; but these small letters are heathen Greek to the luckless wight who swallows quack medicines. He takes this detached sentence as a passing editorial remark, a genuine outpouring of disinterested benevolence for the benefit of the afflicted; and this too from the very focus of correct intelligence. These two lines, from such a source, would inspire him with more confidence in the Matchless Sanative than whole columns of newspaper puffs from the venter of the article.

I have introduced the above quotation merely as a specimen of modern refinement in the science of puffing. I find no fault with the Matchless Sanative, because I believe it is always harmless in its effects. I have carefully watched its operation, and have never found it to injure the patient when taken in large doses or small. It is one of the *inerts*; a mere revenue article, like the puny potion of the Homœopathist, or the silver shilling of a seventh son—a humbug, to be sure, but one that never stings. Not so with Brandreth’s pills; they possess a power not to be trifled with. How much benefit may have been derived from their use, I know not; but that they have occasionally produced cases of formidable disease, admits of no doubt.

In the autumn of ’38, typhoid fever prevailed extensively in this vicinity. The attack was so gradual that the patient would frequently linger three or four days before he took his bed. During this period some would take a dose or two of Brandreth’s pills, and then call the physician. This beginning was generally the prelude to a protracted case, attended with obstinate diarrhœa as a prominent symptom.

For the last year, I had heard very little of these pills until the 20th of the present month, when I was called in consultation with Dr. A., of Woburn, to visit a gentleman in that place, who was laboring under diarrhœa from the use of Brandreth’s pills. As a fatal termination was expected,

I requested the attending physician to send me an outline of the case in writing, which he has accordingly done. The following extract contains the leading circumstances of the case. “Mr. W. P. is 32 years of age. I was first called to visit him on the morning of the 17th of March. He informed me that his health had not been very good this spring; that his bowels had been costive, and that on the evening of the fifteenth he had taken three of Brandreth’s pills, which began to operate next morning, and had continued to do so to the time that I saw him. The discharges consisted of bloody mucus, and were attended with severe pain. By the use of anodynes the bowels became quiet, and remained so until five o’clock in the afternoon of the same day, when the discharges returned, and continued, without abatement, to the close of life. He died last evening.”

This letter is dated March 31st. As it does not allude to a post mortem examination, perhaps there was none made. When I saw this man, on the 20th, it appeared to me that the resources of medicine had been exhausted upon him, and that little remained to be done but to wait for the closing scene. It seems proper for me to add, that the treatment adopted in this case by the attending physician, met my entire approbation and concurrence. I am aware that it is a general custom in reporting cases, to select such as are of rare occurrence, or of extraordinary character, and to give details of the treatment which led to a favorable termination. I have, for once, reversed the order. I have given a hasty sketch of a case attended with nothing peculiar in its character or circumstances, in which the treatment was of no avail, and which terminated in death.

I do not expect that this letter will be read with much interest by the members of the medical faculty; it is not written with special reference to their edification, but with a hope of casting some few rays of light upon a subject of vital importance to another portion of the community in which we live. Yours truly,

Z. H.

Billerica, March 31, 1841.

Why will men who practice on the old killing, depletive system of purging, make war on one another? Is it to blind the people still more, that they may be the easier robbed of their property and lives?

When the *True Thomsonian* read the letter of Mr. Gray, which we published in our 12th No. it was so much effected, that a large dose of No. 6 was found hardly sufficient to keep it from fainting. Truth is sometimes touching.

DR. S. M. WATSON.

DR. S. M. WATSON, the gentleman who undertook a discussion with Dr. Draper, at the Marlboro' Chapel, a few months since, has been brought before the public in no very envious light, in a pamphlet entitled "*Exposition of the Medical Treatment of S. M. Watson*," by a Mr BYRNE. Mr. B. is a gentleman who has suffered much from the *lancet* and calomel while under the care of Dr. Watson. Our readers will recollect this famous Dr. of the depletive system; he boasted of having taken from the citizens of Boston and vicinity *one hundred barrels of blood*, and to have administered *forty-nine pounds of calomel*! That statement alone was enough to condemn the man, but this Exposition, is calculated to make an impression against him which must prevent his doing mischief where the pamphlet is read; and we advise all the friends of humanity to purchase it, and lend it to their friends, as by so doing they will be spreading information, and helping a man who is, as we understand, in need of their assistance.

✍ In a communication in the "Lynn Freeman," over the signature of "Medicus," we observe the following assertion, which is not less marked with ignorance than falsehood:

"In fact, Lobelia, the princess of vegetables, the all-in-all of some, is a more deadly poison than most of the minerals."

The writer of this foolish sentence knows no more of Lobelia than of common fairness and candor.

MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE.—Two eminent physicians of Richmond, (Va.,) were called to see a boy sick, with what they pronounced the *small pox*. It afterwards turned out to be a case of *ring-worm*. This is *learning* and science. No doubt these M. D.'s prescribed for the *name*, and left the *disease* to prescribe for itself.

✍ The correspondent who has a case of deafness, should know that it is caused by *canker*, and he must treat it the same there as he would were it in any other part of the body. Be careful, and do not syringe the ear, as many cases have been more injured than benefited by too much effort on the part of the practitioner to force a cure by syringing. The deafness no doubt, is caused by cold in the first place, which produced canker. Have patience, and apply canker medicines, and the steam bath, and no doubt you will see the good effects soon, provided the old faculty have not dabbled with the patient so much as to render his a hopeless case.

The case of *fits* requires a few thorough courses, and do not fail to give enemata often.

To the Editor of the Thomsonian Manual.

SIR:—Please to publish the following certificate from Mr. Porter. It will show the article in the True Thomsonian, (falsely called,) to be a tissue of falsehoods; and here this matter will end, so far as I am concerned. I can find some better employment for my time, than that of carrying on a controversy with Wm. M. Steele, or those who have made a tool of him, on a subject of this nature.

NATH'L S. MAGOON.

CERTIFICATE.

This certifies that I was an assistant in Dr. S. Thomson's infirmary, and saw Wm. M. Steele often while he was under the treatment of Dr. Magoon. He received all the care and attention which his case required, and his improvement was as rapid while at the infirmary (the second and fifth of Dec. only) as any reasonable man could anticipate. The public can judge whether he had the Typhus Fever as stated by J. W. Chapman (in his report of the case published in the "True Thomsonian") by the fact that he *walked* from his boarding-house to the infirmary, and *walked* back again, which would to a person suffering with the Typhus Fever have been difficult to accomplish. Had he used any tolerable prudence when he left there, he would in all probability have been restored to health in a short time, but his imprudence in sitting by a close stove during two days was such as would naturally have produced bad consequences to a person in better health than that of Mr. Steele.

W. PORTER.

Boston, May 26, 1841.

CORRESPONDENCE.

*Thomsonian Infirmary, No. 40 Salem st. }
Boston, May, 1841. }*

TO MR B. S. PORTER, Colerain, Mass.

DEAR BROTHER: Having a little leisure time, I will employ it in writing to you, informing you that I am well, and my desire is that this will find you and all in your vicinity enjoying the same blessing.

I have been reading, thinking, practising, and observing, since my arrival here, and every thing relating to the business in which I am engaged, has tended most powerfully to establish my mind as to the correctness and utility of Dr SAMUEL THOMSON'S *theory of Medical practice*. It surpasses the *mineral theory*, just as much as nature surpasses art; in fact the mineral theory is no *theory* at all, as may be proved from the fact that hardly any two of its advocates practice alike, (or if a theory it is one of *experiments*.) Another circumstance which cannot lie is, they are at open war with each other; they are emphatically "a house divided against itself, which

cannot stand." In support of these assertions I might quote Dr. Barnwell, Dr. Sydenham, and Dr. Galen; also Dr. Waterhouse, Dr. Hervey, and a multitude of others, all men of the highest medical respectability. But in addition to this testimony, are facts which have come under my own observation.

Since I have been at the infirmary we have had a great variety of cases—such as pulmonary complaints, rheumatic, measles, gout, asthma, dyspepsia, fevers, cancer, insanity, delirium-tremens, and chronic complaints, from different parts of the Union, and in no case have we failed of giving relief, or effecting a cure. Men have come here who could not feed themselves, nor walk, nor dress themselves; their feet and hands swollen as full as they could be, and have been benefitted by the medicine and theory of Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON. I have been astonished to see the wonders effected here. Believing as I have ever since I became acquainted with the principles laid down by Dr. Thomson, that *that* theory was correct, what little experience I have had in it has *confirmed* that belief.

You have frequently heard me say that his, (Dr. T.'s) theory had been abused by men who were ignorant and inexperienced. I was correct. The best system that ever was or ever will be invented in relation to any thing you can mention, whether civil, religious, or political, in unskilful, ignorant, and inexperienced hands, becomes bad, because it is misapplied; though the tools to work with are first rate, yet the work is bad, because they are used by a bungler.

But it is said that he (Dr. T.) treats alike all cases; it is not so; he uses a greater variety of medicines than any other *man*—he treats different forms of disease differently. It is true, in almost every case he uses steam, enemas, lobelia, and cayenne, but a great variety of other medicines are used, and varied, as cases and circumstances may require, according to the judgment of the practitioner, based on experience, derived from observation, which is the best, and I had almost said, the *only correct* teacher a doctor can have, may dictate.

Many have bought Rights and gone into practice and in a plain case they may venture with a tolerable degree of safety, but in a desperate one, they must like the children of Israel, "stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord," for all doing any thing themselves, with any considerable degree of safety or hope of success. The idea that a knowledge of Thomsonism can be obtained so very easily, is altogether erroneous; as yet I know very little about the business, but enough to be sensible of that. I intend, by close application to business, and the bless-

ing of Divine Providence, to equip myself for the highly important and responsible duties incumbent on a Thomsonian Practitioner. There are daily calls for practitioners to establish themselves in different parts of the country. The field is great, the harvest is plenteous, but good laborers are comparatively few. From Maine to Georgia, the cry is heard, "come over and help us," as well as from the numerous cities and villages in our own vicinity. I should be pleased to write more, but matters of moment prevent; but you may expect to hear from me again soon. Yours, truly,

LUTHER PURINGTON.

For the Manual.
MORAL COURAGE.

MR. EDITOR:—There are a great many M. D.s, had they the moral courage of a Waterhouse, or a Robinson, that would come forward and embrace the Thomsonian system with eagerness.

Any person who has ever examined the valuable theory of Doct. Samuel Thomson, cannot but say that it rests upon a very solid foundation. Independent of all external evidence, it contains within itself ample proof of its merit. I might mention in proof of this assertion the many cases of cures that have been effected by it.

Moreover the futile efforts that have been made by great and ingenious intellects to overthrow the system, is a corroborating testimony of its correctness. Not all the metaphysic subtleties, the acuteness, nor the wonderful sarcastic powers of the learned M. D.s, have in the least shaken its stability. It stands as yet, impervious to all attacks of human ingenuity. The man therefore, who goes so far as to reject its truth, must have his thoughts interwoven with no little conceit.

Yours, &c. J. M. G
Eubanks, Ga. April, 1841.

MEASLES.

The measles have prevailed very much among children in this city and vicinity. We have known families, consisting of five or more children, to be all effected with this disease at the present season—we do not recollect when they were more prevalent. We have ascertained several deaths occurring under the mineral doctors practice, but we have not learned a single death occurring under Thomsonian treatment, or even that pursued by "old women," as they are termed. Those who have a family of children under their charge should think well before they consign one of their little ones to be dealt with as mineralites are in the habit of doing to cure disease. It should be considered

whether the remedy is not more dangerous than the disease. The plan of cooling the system by salts, and vomiting by the administration of antimony, is by far more serious and to be dreaded more than the disease, all the learning to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Thomsonian philosophy of curing this disease is the same as in any other malady, it is therefore necessary to give such medicines as are capable of creating a moisture on the surface; this is accomplished by administering composition tea, more *learnedly* called "diaphoretic powders." In severe cases, where the eruption fails to come out, it is highly necessary to resort to general treatment. A full course will soon remove all difficulty, after which it is necessary to administer the composition tea, in order to keep the determining powers to the surface. When the eruption is drying off, a disagreeable sensation is felt by an itching, to remedy which, it is highly beneficial to apply steaming. It has a tendency to create a moisture on the surface, and to do away the disagreeable itching that accompanies this disorder when the eruption is about drying up.

In all cases where the general health of the patient is bad, it would be highly improper to omit courses, as this is the surest way to effect a general action throughout the system. Any plan of treatment that lessens the vital action is more to be dreaded than the disease in question, or indeed any other disease. We would therefore add in conclusion, that physic, bleeding, starving, or any other process belonging to the *antiphlogistic regimen* should be carefully avoided. Keep the surface moist and avoid physic, whether Botanic or mineral, and give nourishing food; that which is most easily digested is preferable.—[Phil. Thom. Sen.]

SUDDEN DEATH—EFFECTS OF OPIUM.

Yesterday morning, Dr. Ruggles, a graduate of Columbia College, was sauntering through Fulton Market, looking at meat and vegetables—pricing some of these articles, and talking with the market folks around the stalls.—All on a sudden, a gurgling noise proceeded from his mouth, his eyes rolled, he lost his consciousness, and down he fell like a log in the centre of the passage. People collected around him—efforts were made to resuscitate him, but after a few convulsions and sorrowful groans, he expired. A coroner's jury was immediately summoned, and they returned a verdict, "death by fits."

Dr. Ruggles was formerly a respectable physician. He began life with fair prospects, but owing to the detestable practice of dram-drinking, he gradually acquired intemperate habits and lost the respect of his acquaintance. Latterly, in order to stimulate his intellectual faculties, or to put away care completely, being a phrenologist by faith, he abandoned spirituous liquors, and took to eating opium. The use of

this latter weed, operating on a feeble constitution, naturally brought on fits, and at last death, without preparation for a "dread hereafter." There was a quantity of opium found in his pocket at the examination before the coroner's jury.

A word on this point—it is a fact, that many fashionable and intellectual people in this city, who are considered temperate, virtuous, and highly respectable, are in the habit of indulging privately in consuming this terrible and destructive weed. At parties and soirees, balls, &c., a nice observer can see and distinguish with ease those who stimulate their fancy and wit by the use of opium. Nothing wears the soul out so soon or so effectually. They are highly excited in conversation—seldom eating—drink nothing—and towards the close when the opium has spent its force, look in the eyes and the fire is gone—the brightest dim and a glossy idiotism only visible in the most intelligent face.

We heard the other day of a fashionable lady who eat fifty pounds of opium in a year. She had better leave off, or she will fall down in Broadway in fits as Dr. Ruggles did in the Fulton market. One young lady, and a poetess too, has fallen a victim already.—[N. Y. Herald.]

Epitaph on the grave-stone of a young lady. Died of thin shoes; January 1839.

If the truth was always to be found in an epitaph, and epitaphs on every grave-stone, such inscriptions as the above would be as thick in our repositories of death as fallen leaves in autumn.

The practice of wearing thin shoes, and clothing in light garments generally, is too common among American women, and cannot be too strongly animadverted upon. A thin pair of shoes undoubtedly sets off and displays to advantage a pretty foot; but is the word of admiration from some senseless coxcomb in a crowded ball-room, an equivalent for the hacking cough and hectic flush—or the ruddy tint of health so lightly esteemed by our fair countrywomen as to be carelessly exhausted for the red harbinger of death, blasting the cheek where it blooms.

Is a foot compressed into the smallest possible space by kid and morocco—a prisoner there—and which if placed and kept there, against the will of the wearers would be called torture; is a foot thus bandaged, we say, because its diminutiveness may attract the attention of some jockey in humanity, and, exposing its owners both to the quality and manner its covering, to cold, cough and consumption, to have such meretricious advantages compared with such probable results?—Let those who thus throw themselves in the suicide's path reflect upon what they are doing.

We say to every one, wear good strong, thick shoes, and overshoes whenever there is mud, water, snow, or ice, in the street. Never mind if your feet do look a little large ladies; even if

they should appear clumsy, do not fret. A little looking foot is not of so much importance to health and happiness as a good pair of lungs—and those who act the part of wisdom, will dress to ensure health, and let Fashion, and Fashion's fools go to destruction in the way they love to travel.

HONEY A CURE FOR THE GRAVEL.—The following which appeared originally in the Liverpool (Eng.) Courier, may prove servicable to some of our readers:—

"About twenty-seven years ago, (says a correspondent) I was much afflicted with the gravel, and twice in serious danger from small stones lodging in the passage.—I met with a gentleman who had been in my situation, and had got rid of that severe disorder by sweetening his tea with half honey and half sugar. I adopted this remedy, and found it effectual. After being fully clear of my disease about ten years, I declined taking honey, and in about three months I had a violent fit of my old complaint; I then renewed the practice of taking honey in my tea, and am now more than threescore and ten, and have not for the last seventeen years had the smallest symptom of gravel. I have recommended my prescription to many of my acquaintance, and have never known it to fail."

"BREVITY THE SOUL OF WIT."—The celebrated Dr. Abernethy was a man of uncommon brevity of expression. A lady who was acquainted with this peculiarity of the Doctor, once called upon him with one of her arms badly burnt, for advice, when the following dialogue took place:—

Mrs. B.—(exposing her arm,) "a burn."

Doctor.—"I see it is; poultice it." [Here he wrote a prescription for a poultice and handed it to her.]

Second visit. Mrs. B.—(exposing her arm as before,) "better."

Doctor.—"Glad of it; continue the poultice."

Third visit. Mrs. B.—(Showing her arm)—"well."

Doctor.—"Very glad."

Mrs. B.—"What's the fee?"

Doctor.—"Nothing; you are the most sensible woman I have ever seen."

READING.—A proper and judicious system of reading is of the highest importance. Two things are necessary in perusing the mental labor of others, namely: not to read too much, and to pay great attention to what you do read. Many people peruse books for the express and avowed purpose of consuming time; and this class of readers form by far, the majority of what are termed "the reading public." Others, again, read with the laudable anxiety of being made wiser; and when this object is not attained, the disappointment may generally be attributed either to the habit of reading too much, or of paying insufficient attention to what falls under their notice.—[Blakeley's Logic.]

LABOR DISGRACEFUL.—The idea is getting very prevalent, that physical labor is disgraceful;—that to earn our "daily bread" by the "sweat of the face," is beneath the dignity of a respectable man. No man who looks upon things in their true light, however,—who does not take a false view of what constitutes a true gentleman, can entertain such an idea for a moment. The greatest men, in fact, have been trained up to work with their hands. Intelligence can breathe, thank God, and live in the being of an active life. Society is entirely dependent upon the "hard fisted" portion of the human race, and those who feel that it is beneath their station to apply their hands to labor for an existence, are merely drones, in the great hive of the world.

A young urchin being severely reprimanded by his mother for saying "HELL," remembered the chastisement, and on the following Sabbath when the minister in preaching, used the word, leaped up and exclaimed, "by jings! if you had my mother to deal with, you would n't swear that way without getting licked, I know!"

GRAMMATICAL.—"Sammy," said a fond father to his son who was just studying English grammar, "our cat caught a rat—in which case is the noun cat in this sentence?" "The *nominative*," replied Sammy. "Very good—very good, indeed—but the rat—is the rat in the nominative case, too."—"Why no sir," hesitated Sammy, "the rat, sir, is in—" "What?"—"Why, sir, he's in a *very bad case* indeed sir!" "You're a smart boy, Sammy, you are—you may go down to the head."

Do not let coffee stand in tin. Scald your wooden ware often; and keep your tin ware dry.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *seventh volume* of this periodical was commenced on the 15th day of November last.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at two DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., June 1, 1840.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only places in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st, and at No. 71-2 WATER STREET, near Washington street.

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [better than those which have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their better medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against a gang in Blackstone street calling themselves Thomsonians, with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmary at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman. whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheeps' clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The Infirmary and Store at No. 40 Salem st. are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.


Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

The following is a list of some of the medicines for sale at the above establishment, with their prices annexed:—

Cayenne,	\$1.00 per lb.	12½	cts.	per oz.
Composition Powder,	1.00	"	12½	" "
Conserve Hollyhock,	1.00	"	12½	" "
" " Pills,	1.25	"	12½	" "
Coffee, or coarse Bayb.	.50	"	12½	" "
Cancer Plaster,			25	" "
Golden Seal,	1.50	"	12½	" "
Ginger, ground,	0.25			
Headache Snuff,	1.25	"	12½	" "
Healing Salve,	1.00	"	12½	" "
Lobelia, green	2.00	"	25	" "
Lobelia Seed, pulv.	3.00	"	25	" "
Murrh Gum,	1.00	"	12½	" "
Nerve Powder,	2.50	"	20	" "
Poplar Bark,	0.50	"	12½	" "
Raspberry Leaves,	0.50	"	12½	" "
Spiced Bitters,	1.00	"	12½	" "
Strengthening Plaster,	1.00	"	20	" "
Slippery Elm Bark,	1.00	"	12½	" "
" " pulv	1.05	"	12½	" "
Unicorn Root,	2.50	"	25	" "
Woman's Friend,	1.00	"	12½	" "
Volatile Salts,	1.50	"	25	" per bot
Cough Syrup,	\$1.00 per bottle.			
No. 5 Syrup,	1.00	"		
Essences,	1.00	"	12½	cts. per oz.

Nerve Ointment,	3.00	per bot.	25	" "
Eye Water,			25	" "
Meadow Fern Ointment,			25	" "
Pepper Sauce,	0.42	"		
Rheumatic Drops,	1.00	"	12½	" "
Tincture Lobelia,	1.00	"	12½	" "
Third Preparation,	2.00	"	25	" "
Vegetable Jelly,	1.00	"		
Wine Bitters,	0.75	"		

Dr. THOMSON will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be *post paid* or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.


Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Thomsonian Almanac.

THIS pamphlet is now ready for sale at the INFIRMARY, No 40 Salem street, by the gross, dozen, or single number. dec 15.

 NOTICE.—Those persons who have received three or four numbers of the present volume of our paper, will bear in mind that they are responsible for the whole volume. We shall stop no more papers, until the subscriber pays what he already owes. This notice is given on account of papers being returned by subscribers, who have received and kept several numbers of the volume, and now request it discontinued. We can't do it till you pay up. Our first number contained our terms; and had you returned that paper, our acquaintance would have ceased; but as you did not, we shall stick to you till November, "like a chestnut burr to a sheep's back."

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, JUNE 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 15.]

From the Connecticut Mirror.

A RAINY DAY.

It rains. What lady loves a rainy day?
Not she who puts prunella on her foot,
Zephyrs around her neck, and silken hose
Upon a graceful ancle—nor yet she
Who sports her tassel'd parasol along
The walks, beau-crowded on some sunny noon,
Or trips in muslin, in a winter's night
On a cold sleigh ride—to a distant ball.
She loves a rainy day who sweeps the hearth,
And threads the busy needle, or applies
The scissors to the torn or thread-bare sleeve:
Who blesses God that she has friends and home;
Who in the pelting of the storm, will think
Of some poor neighbor that she can befriend,
Who trims the lamp at night and reads aloud
To a young brother, tales he loves to hear,
Or ventures cheerfully abroad, to watch
The bed-side of some sick and suffering friend,
Administering that best of medicine,
Kindness and tender care and cheering hope,
Such are not sad, e'en on a rainy day.

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

LEARNED OPINIONS.

RELATIVE TO MEDICAL SCIENCE, &c.

The cases we have from time to time published should be a lesson to those who are enduring the treatment of scientific poisoners of health and workers of death. Thousands are annually consigned to an early grave, and millions doomed to linger out a wretched existence owing to the use of poisons, and other deleterious agents employed by the college craft pretenders of the healing art. Indeed it is almost incredible to believe the daring audacity practised on credulity by those pretenders and experimenters. How many are now enduring pain and misery from their cupidity and ignorance? Oh, science! science!! How is it that all the craft that disgraces humanity seeks a repose under the shelter of thy dignified name? Is it because thou art deceitful, mysterious or vain? Or is it because thou art the comforter and benefactor of human happiness? Surely it must be the latter.

Every individual has an idea that science is human knowledge, yet he may not have examined the validity of the claims that college dignitaries possess in regard to its application.—Here, then, lies the great secret, men take it for granted that college learning is based on facts, and that experience constitutes the fundament-

al basis upon which the principles of their practice is governed. If this was the case it would be impossible to overthrow college dignitaries or their practice of administering poisons and other deleterious agents, under the pretence of being scientific, and therefore in strict accordance with the laws that govern the animal economy.—Science signifies truth, established on demonstrable evidence. Now let us pause for a moment, and inquire what evidence is presented by those remedies employed by college doctors for the removal of disease. Let us go to their own works for testimony. “Out of their own mouths shall ye condemn them.”

How egregiously do the greatest men err whenever they lose sight of facts, or substitute sallies of wit or specious arguments in physic, for observation and experience.—Buchan.

If an opinion be erroneous it requires discussion, that its errors may be exposed. If it be true, it will gain adherents in proportion as it is examined.—Dr. Cooper.

If employment of the lancet were abolished altogether, it would perhaps save annually a greater number of lives than in any one year the sword has ever destroyed.—Dr. Ring.

The man who wantonly wields the bloody knife, for the sake of experience, or a vain display of his adroitness is a human savage in whose breast soft pity never dwelt.—Dr. Cumming.

Abominable is a murderous quack, who forever impatient to unsheathe his blood-thirsty lancet, draws from a fever patient the irreparable balsam of life.—Dr. Hunn.

Let us study the character of diseases, and let us study the loss of blood.—Hall.

We have not in any instance yielded our assent to authority, however high, when it has been contradicted by our own experience.—De-wees.

It is owing to our ignorance that there is any necessity for instruments to cure disease.—Abernethy.

If the Reformed System be a good one, let it flourish and progress. If it be a bad one, let it be frowned down by the just censure of an enlightened community.—Banner.

Both Surgery and medicine can and will, in the present astonishing strides of human intellect, be forced to pass a rigid scrutiny, and undergo a radical improvement.—Smead.

“Minerals exert a pernicious and baneful in-

fluence on the system; they seldom or never cure, but often destroy the patient. Their operation is altogether uncertain, depending entirely on the state of the stomach, whether they act at all or prove injurious."

Among the numerous poisons which have been used for the cure or alleviation of diseases, there are few which possesses more active and of course more dangerous powers, than Mercury—Hamilton.

"Mercury, the Lancet, and the Knife, are now almost the only means made use of to cure disease, notwithstanding their deleterious effects are evidently fatal to multitudes."

The popular belief that every country produces simples suitable to cure all the prevailing local diseases, is not void of truth; vegetable substances afford the mildest, most efficient and most congenial remedies to the human frame. The numerous cures that are daily performed by the use of vegetable medicines, are sufficient evidence of their super-excellent virtues.—Prof. Rafinesque.

The Flora of North America is astonishingly rich in remedies. There is no doubt in my mind, that in more diseases than is general acknowledged, vegetable productions are the preferable remedies. Who knows but in time, these native productions of the field and forest, will so enlarge and confirm their dominion, as to supersede the employment of other medicines.—Professor Waterhouse.

To yield to any authority would here be criminal. Facts must and will stand.—Underwood.

It would be highly advantageous to the public, and likewise to the best part of the Medical Profession, if the predispositions and occasions of disease were made a portion of the education of every gentleman.—Dr. Armstrong.

Every physician must rest on his own judgment which appeals for its rectitude to nature and experience alone.—Gregory.

An obstinate adherence to an unsuccessful method of treating a disease is self conceit—it generally proceeds from ignorance—it is a species of pride to which the lives of thousands have been sacrificed.—Ibid.

Our want of success is occasioned by the following causes; 1st, our ignorance of the disease; 2d, our ignorance of a suitable remedy; 3d, want of efficacy in the remedy.—Ibid.

If truth doth any where manifest itself, seek not to smother it with glossing delusion; acknowledge the greatest thereof, and esteem it thy best victory when the same doth prevail over thee.—Hooker.

The whole nation is groaning under the present practice of the Medical Profession, which fosters disease more than cures it, and debases or ruins our constitutions.—Morrison.

All men ought to be acquainted with the medical art. I believe that knowledge of medicine is the sister and companion of wisdom.—Hypocrites.

In early times skill in healing was esteemed a part of wisdom. I believe the practice of medicine should be agreeable to reason.—Celsus.

As health is the most precious of all things, and is the foundation of all happiness, the science of protecting life and health is the noblest of all and most worthy the attention of all mankind—Hoffman.

"Not only a reform in medicine is necessary, but a revolution."

"The labor of ages perishes before one principle of truth. A general maxim, properly established, is of more value than ten thousand of those small arguments which spring from the dreary confusion of a benighted intellect".

"General principles may fail in particular cases, but they must always prevail in the general course of things; a general remedy, well established by practice may likewise fail in a particular instance, and yet its general utility remains unbroken."

The above are the opinions of the most learned of the profession. We want no better proof of the uncertainty or the ruinous effects of the college mode of doctoring than what is contained in the above. Those who feel an interest in the promotion of medical science unincumbered by college learning, are seriously called upon to examine for themselves, "for ye know not the hour sickness may come upon thee" and thy life become a sacrifice to the cupidity of learned quackery.

From the Health Journal.

CAUSES OF DISEASE.

The causes of our diseases, or at least of that numerous class which it is in our power entirely to prevent, may be enumerated thus:

1. *Insufficient exercise.*—He who does not spend several hours every day in some active exercise, as walking, riding on horseback, or in some amusement which calls nearly all the muscles into play, must inevitably suffer from a diminution of bodily strength, defect of appetite, and imperfect digestion, and become sooner or later the subject of disease.

2. *Late rising and late retiring.*—Few things contribute more to shorten life, than the habit of keeping late hours, and consequently of rising from bed late in the morning. The advances of weakness and disease from this cause are it is true, by very gradual steps, but not the less certain to be ultimately felt.

3. *Breathing impure air.*—A constant supply of fresh air is even more important than of

food or drink. An individual may, for a long time, control the sensation of hunger, or even the more imperious one of thirst; but life will most certainly be destroyed, if pure air be withheld from the lungs for a very short period. The air is rendered impure by being loaded with animal and vegetable exhalations, by its free circulation being prevented, by a number of persons breathing it when confined in a close chamber, and by the process of fermentation and combustion.

4. *Insufficient ablutions of the body.*—It is not enough for the preservation of health, that merely the hands, the feet, and the face, be washed frequently, but that the whole surface of the body be repeatedly purified by immersion in a bath of appropriate temperature. To all, the frequent use of the bath is an important means of preserving health; but to none more so than to the laborer and mechanic: to such, the time and means for bathing should be afforded in every city, and in every extensive manufactory, wherever situated.

5. *Inattention to the cleanliness of clothing and dwellings.*—Independently of injury which the health of individuals suffers from a neglect of strict personal and domestic cleanliness, the contamination of the air, from the decomposition of filth, accumulated in and about a dwelling, has, not unfrequently, communicated disease to whole families and neighborhoods. Repeatedly white-washing the walls of a house, and scrubbing the floor, is not merely, therefore, a source of tasteful comfort, but a direct means of preserving health.

6. *Food rendered pernicious by modern cookery.*—*Adulterations in foods and drinks, and abuse of medicine.*—While a moderate quantity of plain, wholesome food,—in other words, the food in ordinary use,—is essential to the maintenance of life, all excess in its use, all complicated processes of cookery, and every artificial means, whether by high seasoning, variety of dishes, or foreign flavor, of keeping up the appetite beyond the wants of the system, are decidedly injurious. Every species of adulteration, also, to which our food or drink is subjected, from whatever motive, detracts from its wholesomeness. Let it be recollected, too, that the health and strength of the body are not supported by the quantity of food consumed, but only by so much as is capable of being converted, by the powers of the stomach, into pure chyle and blood.

7. *The use of intoxicating drink.*—The most wholesome drink, the one best adapted to the wants of the system, is pure water. Alcohol, whether in the form of ardent spirits or fermented liquors, when its use is habitually indulged in, produces injury; though absolute drunkenness

be not occasioned, the powers of life are gradually undermined, and the system laid open to the inroads of serious and even fatal diseases.

8. *Defective and improper clothing.*—Injury to health may be caused either by the clothes being inadequate to defend the wearer from the cold, or from sudden changes in the weather; by their impeding the free motions of the limbs, or by their compressing or binding too firmly some part of the body.

9. *The influence of cold.*—In the more opulent ranks of society, disease is produced occasionally by the unequal and imperfect diffusion of warmth throughout an apartment,—by exposure to the night air or inclement weather, after being heated in crowded apartments, or by exercise, as dancing, &c. In the poorer and improvident classes, cold, during winter, is a continued and fruitful source of suffering and disease.

10. *Intense and protracted application of the mind.*—Alternate rest and activity, as well of the body as of the mind, are essential to the support of health. Long continued mental application, whether in study or the cares of business, wear out the system, and exhausts the powers of life, even more rapidly than protracted manual labor.

11. *Giving way to the passions.*—Experience fully proves that nothing contributes more effectually to guard the system against disease, and to prolong life, than a calm and contented state of mind. Individuals who give way, on every occasion, to the influence of passion, not only injure materially their health but are often promptly destroyed. Violent anger and ambition, jealousy and fear, have produced the speedy death of thousands. In cultivating an amiable, peaceful and virtuous disposition, therefore, a man not only insures his happiness, but promotes his health also.

12. *The unnecessary or imprudent use of medicine.*—Domestic quackery has ruined many constitutions, [learned quackery many more.]—A dose of medicine, taken with the view of preventing an attack of disease, not unfrequently invites one, which otherwise would not have occurred. The absurd practice of losing blood, or taking purgatives and other remedies in the spring and autumn, under the erroneous idea that by so doing the blood is rendered more pure, should be carefully avoided.

DR. THOMSON'S SYSTEM.

The system of curing disease, that bears the name "Thomsonian," has been sufficiently long before the people of the United States for any individual to judge of its merits, provided an interest was felt to examine into its worth. But

it appears that those who cry out quackery and are opposed to this simple plan of treating disease, are totally unacquainted with its merits, and what appears truly ridiculous, they are too bigoted or indolent to give themselves the trouble to ascertain its utility or its real worth. In truth it appears that many individuals are determined that they will not be convinced, and such individuals are always found to be very strenuous in their opinions. But who will not shed a tear of sorrow for any human being who is blindly led to follow the superstition and vanity of those styled "regulars;" scientific doctors?—The supposition that a college education fits a man for the profession of a doctor is perfectly consistent with the notions entertained by many of our fellow citizens throughout the union.—Let us for a moment reflect on the subject. In order to come immediately to the point, we will suppose a father wants his son to be a hatter.—What course would he adopt to effect his purpose. Why he would undoubtedly find out a person whom he knew to be competent in the profession of making hats. Now let us reverse the matter. Suppose he wishes his son to be a doctor, does he in like manner send him where he is *sensible* the requisite knowledge will be obtained? We say he does not, and further, he cannot unless he has examined the various plans that are pursued for curing disease. A man may learn the art and mystery of hat making without the aid of letters, and so might he learn the application and use of medical agents without Latin or Greek; a plain English Education and practical illustration of the various agents employed is what is essentially required to make a practitioner. The construction of the human system is an interesting study, although it does not qualify a man for a medical practitioner. It is easy to give a name to disease but it is another matter to cure it. If the mineral faculty were as well versed in *curing* disease as they are in *naming* or describing maladies we should have but little reason to complain.

Those who have the means of educating their children, generally seek for them the most lucrative profession, let that be what it may; they seldom consult the good of mankind. Thus is error perpetuated from one generation to another. Every individual who attempts a reformation of an established custom, must expect to be beset with bitter and relentless persecution by the cliques who fatten on the credulity of mankind. But it is gratifying to every philanthropist, however he may feel the keen and biting scoff of persecution, to feel that he is working in a just cause, and although the storms of ignorance and pride may beat with relentless fury, yet the bark of truth gently glides on the stream of time, and must eventually reach her destined harbor.

From the Maine Thomsonian Recorder.

THE TWO SYSTEMS CONTRASTED.

People who are observing, and all who have ever suffered themselves to think much on the subject of Medicine, are rapidly convinced that the science, as it is taught and practised at the present day, is not only imperfect but very erroneous. They tell me it is of no use to prove to them that the common course is wrong, if I do not show them what is right, and prove it to them by fair demonstration; and they will say, "If you are right, why do you not lay before the public a fair and plain statement of the whole truth, in a clear and irresistible light, that will at once silence all opposition?" I will request those candid and impartial people just to consider that if any, or every truth, on every important subject were to be rejected till all opposition should be silenced, there would at once be an end to the march of intellect. No person attains to a knowledge of any truth, without the labor of thinking for himself. If the operation of steam power when it propels the majestic steamboat against the mighty flood of the Mississippi, were as invisible to mortal eye as the minute organs of the animal system, and the *modus operandi* of medicine on them, I presume that invaluable source of mechanical power would have remained forever unknown to mankind.—We reason much from facts, and so we must: but it is no easy matter to understand the nature of the facts, which we reason from, or upon what principal those facts are established. I will give a brief account of some such cases as frequently occur; that we may compare different cases, and learn to be cautious of making hasty conclusion.

Two men of similar condition and habits are alike exposed to such influences as produces disease, and they are alike taken sick. One of them applies to a Thomsonian physician who treats him according to his invariable routine; it proves congenial with nature; every suspended function is resumed; all morbid irritation is allayed; the vital action is equalized through the whole system, and health is established speedily, and the patient cannot realize that he has been in danger. But that the other applies to a graduate of the school who makes use of such means as has been taught to use in such a case; he reduces at once the vital powers, which are already to low, or the patient would not have been sick. He prescribes medicine which would of itself produce disease if given to a well man, and the patient grows worse—he goes on for weeks, till the powers of vitality are nearly exhausted, and nature submits by a sort of compromise the reigning powers of disease, which now assumes a chronic state, in

this low state hardly perceptible; and the patient begins slowly to convalesce. After some weeks he is able to crawl about, with the appearance of a masked skeleton; and his powers of utterance are employed with zeal and praise of his physician, who has had such a wonderful encounter with the powers of disease and death, and has finally saved him from the grave; and probably the whole circle of his friends and acquaintances will respond to it. Nobody thinks that the other, or his medicine deserves any credit; his patient was not sick; every one can see cases, but every body does not see that the different treatment has made all difference. Yet such is the real fact.

See then how truth is enveloped in obscurity. I will relate another case, the like of which has been witnessed by thousands of intelligent people in this country.

A man was attacked with violent fever, and his physician was a respectable and scientific practitioner, but all his efforts to allay the morbid excitement failed. The vital powers were sinking, and the irritability of the stomach was such that no palliating medicine or nutriment could be retained; blisters, cups, and leeches were applied without benefit, and life was sinking faster than disease, and the symptoms were judged altogether unfavorable; nature was supposed to be below the point of reaction and the physician was not disposed to do any more—his skill was exhausted. About that time a Thomsonian was introduced by some friend, and he was permitted to give the patient some medicine. It produced great agitation and vomiting immediately; but in a few minutes the patient was more composed and easier than before, and a more lively glow suffused his countenance; his eyes seem to sparkle with returning life, and hope began to beam from those of his friend around him.—Shortly after, more of the same medicine was given, and some bland nutriment, which was retained a few minutes and then emitted as before—his pulse became mild and elastic—his skin soft and velvety; and from that time he was convalescent and soon recovered. It was the general opinion of people then, that the physician would be convinced that the Thomsonian took the right course, and one that should have been resorted to in the first stages of the malady. But the physician did not think so—he acknowledged that he was in a mistake as to the condition of the patient—the disease was most formidable and appalling; but in his view it had subsided, and the exact time of the crisis had escaped his notice.—Nature only wanted a little time to recover itself, and the organs to resume their functions! But observe, he had declared before that he knew all about the medicine which Thomsonians use, and as-

serted that, in such a case as the above, whether the crisis had passed or not, such medicine would prove fatal! He knows something now, however, that he did not know before, but it induces him to invent new sophistries, like a partizan politician, to support his inconsistency.

WM. RIPLEY.

WATER FOR WEAK EYES.

BY DR. W. A. ALCOTT.

For weak eyes, a little caution is necessary in the application of them, especially as regards the temperature. To some, cold water is painful; to others, warm water is so. In these cases we know of no safer rule than to leave it to each individual to be governed, in respect to temperature, by his experience and judgment. If cold water is painful, why then raise its temperature till it ceases to be so. If on the contrary, warm water appears to be injurious, we may lower the temperature. It should be remembered, however, that the cooler the water the better it is, so far as our object in its application is to diminish inflammation and give strength to the organ, provided it does not irritate or give pain.

Our leading purpose, however, in these remarks, is to suggest the more important means of improving the eye, rather than those of removing debility or disease; and to those who have eyes already comparatively healthy and good, and who only wish to cultivate or improve—in other words, to educate—them in the best possible manner, we would say, make a daily use of cold water. Not only wash the face well several times a day, and the whole body once,—the eyes being closed when the water comes in contact with these parts,—but occasionally open the eyes themselves while in the water.

When we commenced a regular course of study, at the age of twenty-five, our greatest fear was lest our eyes—naturally weak, and rendered worse by improper medical treatment for the measles—should fail us. But by daily bathing them, and especially by opening them in cold water, and by a proper course of exercise to be described hereafter, instead of growing worse by study, they actually grew better every year for many years—indeed till we were more than forty years of age. Now while we would not lay too much stress on single cases, it is impossible for us not to make at least two inferences from these facts.—1. That though exercise had its full share in this work of improving the eyes, the cold bath did something. 2. That what did *our* eyes some good, or at least did not injure them, diseased though they were, would be far more useful—certainly safe—to eyes as yet comparatively healthy.

We have already alluded to the deleterious

consequences of eye waters; especially those which are as harsh as sulphuric acid or elixir vitriol. And yet while many people will use the latter with great willingness, they will shrink from the application of cold water to the tender surface of the eye! Strange inconsistency! And yet not a whit more strange than common.

Pure cold water thus applied to the eye, twice or three times a day, especially in the early part of the day, is most unquestionably the best *tonic* for this organ—light excepted—which the world can produce. When it *cannot* be borne, however—for there may be such cases among us, in a community where there is so much incipient disease—washing and bathing the face often with the eyes closed, is highly serviceable. Nearly the same good effects, only in a degree less intense, may result from this mode of application, which follow from the other. The eyelid is very thin, and its sympathies with the eye itself very strong.

[From the Common School Almanac.]

TO PARENTS.

The right education of your children is dearer to you than any earthly object; for a good education is a young man's best capital. To educate your children well, is to give them equal chance for the privileges and honors of manhood.

But, to keep them from school the most of the time—to furnish them with a miserable, useless teacher—to deny them the necessary and the most approved school books—to be unwilling to spend a little to procure papers and books for general information and reading—to do these things, or either one of these, is to do your child an incalculable injury.

You wish your children to be companions of the virtuous and the intelligent—then make them virtuous and intelligent; unless you do this, your children will be unfit for such society as you wish them to keep. You wish your offspring respected and influential—morality and intellect are always respected, and these qualities are always influential too. You do not wish others to trample upon the rights of your children—you do not wish others to lead them, to think for them, or to make them mere tools for ambitious ends. Then give them an education; a mind that they may know and keep their rights; that they may think for themselves, and have the privileges of freemen. Ignorance is always the vassal, the slave of intelligence. The educated man always has, and always will have, the advantage of the ignorant; and if you let your children grow up uneducated, you let them grow up to be tools and the slaves of others. You cannot do your children a greater

injury than to let them step into manhood, uneducated; and in no other way can you do these free institutions a greater evil.

You ought to put into your children's hands every thing that assists or encourages them in their studies. Do not hesitate at the expense. If you can strengthen one moral feeling, or one intellectual faculty in your child, you are well paid for almost any expense. Wealth will not make your offspring great or happy; happiness and greatness consist in virtue and knowledge. Let the education of your children then, be your first care.

EDUCATION.

The fairest diamonds are rough till they are polished, and the purest gold must be run and washed, and sifted in the ore. We are untaught by nature; and the finest qualities will grow wild and degenerate, if the mind is not formed by discipline, and cultivated with an early care. In some persons, who have run up to men without a proper education, we may observe many great qualities, darkened and eclipsed; their minds are crusted over like diamonds in the rock; they flash out sometimes into an irregular greatness of thought, and betray in their actions an unguided force and unmanaged virtue; something very great and very noble may be discerned, but it looks cumbersome and awkward, and is alone, of all things, the worse for being natural. Nature is, undoubtedly, the best mistress and aptest scholar; but Nature herself must be civilized, or she will look savage, as she appears in the Indian princes, who are vested with a native majesty, a surprising greatness and generosity of soul, and discover what we always regret, fine parts and excellent natural endowments, without improvements. In those countries, which we call barbarous, where art and politeness are not understood, Nature hath the greater advantage in this, that simplicity of manners often secures the innocence of the mind; and as virtue is not, so neither is vice, civilized and refined: but, in these more polite parts of the world, where virtue excels by rules of discipline, vice also is most obstructed; and, with us, good qualities will not spring up alone; many hurtful weeds will rise with them, and choke them in their growth, unless removed by some skilful hand, nor will the mind be brought to a just perfection without cherishing every hopeful seed, and repressing every superfluous humor. The mind is like the body in this regard, which cannot fall into a decent and easy carriage, unless it be fashioned in time: an untaught behaviour is, like the people that use it, truly rustic, forced, and uncouth, and art must be applied to make it natural.

SCRAPS FOR THE ECONOMICAL.

Do not let knives be dropped into hot dish-water. It is a good plan to have a large tin pot to wash them in, just high enough to wash the blades, *without wetting* the handles. Keep your castors covered with blotting-paper and green flannel.—Keep your salt-spoons out of the salt, and clean them often.

Do not wrap knives and forks in woollens.—Wrap them in good, strong paper. Steel is injured by lying in woollens.

If it be practicable, get a friend in the country to procure you a quantity of lard, butter, and eggs, at the time they are the cheapest, to be put down for winter use. You will be likely to get them cheaper and better than in the city market; but by all means put down your winter's stock. Lard requires no other care than to be kept in a dry, cool place. Butter is sweetest in September and June; because food is then plenty, and not rendered bitter by frost. Pack your butter in a clean, scalded firkin, cover it with strong brine, and spread a cloth all over the top, and it will keep good until the Jews get into Grand Isle.

Suet and lard keep better in tin than in earthen. Suet keeps good all the year round, if chopped and packed down in a stone jar, covered with molasses. Pick suet free from veins and skin, melt it in water before a moderate fire, let it cool till it forms into a hard cake, then wipe it dry, and put it in clean paper in linen bags. Preserve the backs of old letters to write upon. If you have children learning to write, buy coarse white paper by the quantity, and keep it locked up, ready to be made into writing books. It does not cost half as much as it does to buy them at the stationers.

When mattresses get hard and bumpy, rip them, take the hair out, pull it thoroughly by hand, let it lie a day or two to air, wash the tick, lay it in as light and even as possible, and catch it down, as before. Thus prepared, they will be as good as new.

It is poor economy to buy vinegar by the gallon. Buy a barrel, or half a barrel, of really strong vinegar, when you begin house-keeping—As you use it, fill the barrel with old cider, sour beer or wine-settlings, &c., left in pitchers, decanters or tumblers; weak tea is likewise said to be good: nothing is hurtful, which has a tolerable portion of spirit, or acidity. Care must be taken not to add these things in too large quantity, or too often: if the vinegar once gets weak, it is difficult to restore it. If possible, it is well to keep such slops as I have mentioned in a different keg, and draw them off once in three or four weeks, in such a quantity as you think the vinegar will bear. If by any carelessness you do weaken it, a few white beans dropped in,

or white paper dipped in molasses, is said to be useful. If beer grows sour, it may be used to advantage for pancakes and fritters. If very sour indeed, put a pint of molasses and water to it, and, two or three days after, put a half pint of vinegar; and in ten days it will be first rate vinegar.

Barley straw is the best for beds; dry corn husks, slit into shreds, are far better than straw.

Straw beds are much better for being boxed at the sides; in the same manner as upholsterers prepare ticks for feathers.

Brass andirons should be cleaned, done up in papers, and put in a dry place, during the summer season.

If you have a large family, it is well to keep white rags separate from colored ones, and cotton separate from woollen; they bring a higher price. Paper brings a cent a pound, and if you have plenty of room, it is well to save it.

'A penny saved is a penny got.'

Always have plenty of dish-water and have it hot. There is no need of asking the character of a domestic, if you have ever seen her wash dishes in a little greasy water.

When molasses is used in cooking, it is a prodigious improvement to boil and skim it before you use it. It takes out the unpleasant raw taste, and makes it almost as good as sugar. Where molasses is used much for cooking, it is well to prepare one or two gallons in this way at a time.

In winter, always set the handle of your pump as high as possible before you go to bed. Except in very rigid weather, this keeps the handle from freezing. When there is reason to apprehend extreme cold, do not forget to throw a rug or horse-blanket over your pump; a frozen pump is a comfortless preparation for a winter's breakfast.

Never allow ashes to be taken up in wood, or put into wood. Always have your tinder-box and lantern ready for use, in case of sudden alarm. Have important papers all together, where you can lay your hands on them at once, in case of fire.

Keep a coarse broom for the cellar stairs, woodshed, yard, &c. No good housekeeper allows her carpet broom to be used for such things.

There should always be a heavy stone on the top of your pork, to keep it down. This stone is an excellent place to keep a bit fresh meat in the summer, when you are afraid of its spoiling.

Have all the good bits of vegetables and meat collected after dinner, and minced before they are set away; that they may be in readiness to make a little mince meat for supper or breakfast.

Take the skins off your potatoes before they grow cold.

Instead of covering up your glasses and pictures with muslin, cover the frames only with

cheap, yellow cambric, neatly put on, and as near the color of the gilt as you can procure it. This looks better; leaves the glasses open for use, and the pictures for ornament; and is an effectual barrier to dust as well as flies. It can easily be recolored with saffron tea, when it is faded.

Vials, which have been used for medicine, should be put into cold ashes and water, boiled, and suffered to cool before they are rinsed.

If you live in the city, where it is always easy to procure provisions, be careful and not buy too much for your daily wants, while the weather is warm.

Never leave out your clothes-line over night; and see that your clothes-pins are all gathered into a basket.

Have plenty of crash towels in the kitchen; never let your white napkins be used there.

Soap your dirtiest clothes, and soak them in soft water over night.

Use hard soap to wash your clothes, and soft to wash your floors. Soft soap is so slippery, that it wastes a good deal in washing clothes.

WOMEN.—"However novel it may appear, I shall venture the assertion, that, until women assume the place in society which good sense and good feeling alike assign to them, human improvement must advance but feebly. It is in vain that we would circumscribe the power of one half of our race, and that half by far the most important and influential. If they exert it not for good, they will for evil; if they advance not knowledge they will perpetuate ignorance. Let women stand where they may in the scale of improvement, their position decides that of the race. Are they cultivated?—so is society polished and enlightened. Are they ignorant?—so is it gross and insipid. Are they wise?—so is the human condition prosperous. Are they foolish?—so is it unstable and unpromising. Are they free?—so is the human character elevated. Are they enslaved?—so is the whole race degraded. Oh! that we could learn the advantage of just practice and consistent principles; that we could understand, that every departure from principle, how speciously soever it may appear to administer to our selfish interests, invariably saps their very foundation; that we could learn that what is ruinous to some is injurious to all; and that whenever we establish our own pretensions upon the sacrificed rights of others, we do in fact impeach our own liberties, and lower ourselves in the scale of being!"

The heart of man is said to weigh about nine ounces, that of woman eight. As age increases, man's heart grows heavier—Woman's lighter after she is thirty.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.—A friend has handed us a recent number of the *Gazette des Deux Mondes*, of Paris, from which we extract the following:

"Some days ago, Baron Dupoted presented to the Academy of Medicine a *deaf mute*, ten years of age, whose speech and hearing he had restored by a magnetic process. The Academy immediately appointed a commission to inquire into the truth of a fact which threatens to overturn all previous notions of science. Their report is looked for anxiously.

Since that time, the Baron submitted to his process a deaf mute of the age of five years. A certificate of a member of the Academy of Medicine proves that the child was both deaf and dumb from its birth. The miraculous process of the Baron was evident; for, at the end of three sittings, the child heard and repeated every word pronounced in its presence. We have seen this ourselves.

Assurances have been given us, which we dare not doubt, that the Baron has cured nineteen persons similarly afflicted.

It is a truism that time passes rapidly away.—The wheel is constantly revolving, and carries with it our griefs and our joys—and finally life itself. The ancients represented Time with a forelock, to show that it should be seized without delay, and that if once lost, it cannot be secured.—The duration of a man's life should not be estimated by his years, but by what he has accomplished—by the uses which he has made of time and opportunity. The industrious man lives longer than the drone, and by injuring our body and mind to exercise and activity—we shall more than double the years of our existence.

WOMAN'S LOVE.—An Irishman was lately imprisoned in New Orleans. His wife was permitted to visit his window. She took her two children and with them remained in the same position till her husband's release. She was advised by some, who felt for her grief, to go home, when she replied that she "had no home if he could not come to it." Her remark comprises volumes, and evinces woman's deep and ardent devotion, to the man she loves. What more feeling and beautiful reply could have been framed than the one, she "had no home if he could not come to it?"

COLORS.—There are but *three* primary colors,—red, yellow and blue. Blue and red combined constitute purple. Blue and yellow combined, constitute all the variety of greens. Blue and red constitute the orange color. Red (which alone is pure carmine) qualified by yellow, constitute scarlet. Olive is formed by mixing red, blue and yellow. Lilac and violet are formed by different proportions of red and blue. White is composed of all the different colors united. Black is the absence of all color. When red, yellow and blue are perfect, and perfectly blended, the compound proves white. (Rather incredible, but true nevertheless.) Black is uniformly produced by fire; which is a most powerful destroyer of all colors.—[N. Y. Mechanic.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, JUNE 15, 1841.

MONEY.

Reader: now I have engaged your attention read me through. Answer this plain question in your mind—Would it not be well in time of health to compare the different systems of medical practice that are so highly “cracked up” and decide whether in case you are sick, you would by design employ the same substances to restore you to health which if taken by accident would cause death? It is a fact and one which has been often asserted, that the same means are used to cure sick men as to kill well rats. But says the college-learned physician, “we often, without destroying life, give poison enough to a sick person to kill four or five healthy ones. Why is this?” Common sense answers—when it does not kill, there is not enough action in the stomach to diffuse it throughout the system, and from the very nature of poison, it being death in itself, unless it is roused into action by the natural powers of the stomach it remains in a measure dormant and harmless. Changes in all active organized matter must continually take place, but death in an aggravated form is a serious affair; the laws of nature cannot be violated with impunity. “Can a man take poison into his stomach and not be poisoned?” asks Dr. Thomson. Now it is a well known fact, that animal and vegetable poisons (or death) is used to promote life by the regular physicians of the present day. Is their practice successful? For an answer, go to the grave yard; read the inscriptions on the tomb stones and you must perceive that a large proportion die young—but few comparatively reach the meridian of life, and a still smaller number die a natural death by old age. But says one, they died of the violence of their diseases; I would ask what a medicine is good for if it does not effectually assist the efforts of nature to throw off disease? Another says—their time had come,

and it was the will of the Lord they should die—if so, why is it that not more than one of a thousand die (except deaths by the common course of nature) who make a fair trial of the means discovered by Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, to remove disease? yet it is so, and also true that a great number of the Thomsonian patients are those who have been given up to die by those physicians who practice a fashionable method of treating the sick.

✍ A correspondent complains because we took some notice of a Mr. Vancise’s letter a few weeks ago, wherein he complained of a Dr. Steward.—Now, of the merits of the case we know but little; and as we did not publish Mr. V.’s letter, neither shall we the long one we have now received from the other side; but would merely remark, that Dr. Steward thinks *jealousy* instigated Mr. Vancise to speak against him. Be that as it may, we have only to add, that if Dr. Steward cures his patients, he need not fear the jealousy of any of his cotemporaries—the people will award honor to whom it is due. But Dr. S. is mistaken in one respect, where he says his certificate says he has a right to compound his medicines. If he has a certificate from Dr. Thomson, or one of his agents, it only gives him the right to compound for his *own family*, and not to sell. Dr. Thomson seeing that people might impose on the sick if they had that privilege, wisely withheld it from them; and all his agents who make it a business to practice and sell medicines, have their medicines of him—and that accounts for their being so much more successful than the counterfeiters. The books may have been genuine and stolen, as Dr. S. asks; but we can’t say: at any rate, they are sold *too cheap* to have been come by honestly, in our estimation.

✍ Those subscribers who have been active in extending the circulation of the Manual will please accept our thanks for their kindness. By a little exertion on the part of Agents, our list might be much enlarged: although we have no cause to complain, when we consider what some of them have done for us since we commenced the present volume. They have the warm thanks of the proprietor. We would still request each subscriber to endeavor to obtain another one for us.

✍ We have in type a letter from our friend “L. H. B.” of Patterson, (N.J.,) intended for publication in the present No. of the Manual; but a press of other matter compels us to defer its insertion till our next. Several other original and selected articles are unavoidably postponed.

☞ We learn by the *Botanico-Medical Recorder*, that the "mineralites" held a convention on the 5th ult. at Columbus, (O.) As is usual among these *bloody* men, when they get together, they said many hard things of the "steam doctors."—These gentry of the *lancet* it seems will not meet the *steamers* in open debate; neither dare they make a trial with them at the sick bed; but like the cowardly assassin, they strike at their enemies where there is no chance for the censured to defend themselves. It appears, however, that Dr. Curtis gave them an attack, and true to their nature, they shrank from the light of truth, which they have always so much feared, and got off as fast as they could. The Dr. like a good soldier, came up to his duty, and the next evening gave a lecture to a crowded house, which shows, that if the *mineralites* shun the light, the people seek it.

The following account of their cowardice, we copy from the *Recorder* :

EMPIRICISM OR QUACKERY.

On the 5th of May, 1841, some forty medical gentlemen of the mineral order, assembled in the United States Court Room, at Columbus, Ohio, to take into consideration the interests of their craft, and those of the community.

They lectured to each other on the abuses of Mercury, Medical Education, the Winter Fever, &c.; any to the community, against Phrenology, Tight Lacing, and Empiricism or Quackery."

To the performance of the latter service, they appointed one of their strongest men, namely, John P. Harrison, M.D., late Professor of Materia Medica, in the Cincinnati College.

Armed with the panoply of reputed science, and fortified on one side by the almost omnipotent power of fashion, and a "long and undisputed sway" over the popular mind; and, on the other, by the most unjust and inveterate prejudice against all who have been so unfortunate as to have been branded with the opprobrious epithets—"quacks"—and "empyrics," he mounted the battlements in the State House, and directed his whole artillery "against the Steam Practice, in a long and animated address."

Having, as he supposed, demolished steam and lobelia, he turned his forces upon the Legislature and community, and most terribly lashed *them*, not only for preferring steamers to himself and his scientific, modest, disinterested and humane brethren, but for even allowing us any participation in the civil rights and privileges of which they have long enjoyed undisputed possession.

Ourself, as well as our favorite system and practice, having been directly attacked, on the conclusion of the address we rose, commended the Professor for the boldness of his attack, and respectfully asked the privilege to reply. He answered that the Convention had used the house for the purposes for which they obtained it, and had no more control over it. We replied that we were prepared to answer his address, in which we had been accused of shunning the light, and, if the

Convention refused to hear us, we should throw back the charge upon *them*. The Doctor then stated that if we chose to get the house another evening and pay the expense, he would stay and debate the question with us. We replied that *then* the Convention would be gone, and we should not have the privilege of speaking to *them*. We wished to answer at once. Well, said the Doctor, If the citizens will appoint a chairman, and allow each of us to speak fifteen minutes only, I will debate at once. We replied that this would be fair, provided he would first allow us to speak as long as he had done, but that we would accept *any* terms that did not absolutely *close our mouth*. (All this time hands were waved to the audience to persuade them to disperse;) when

Dr. Miller of this city, taking it upon himself to settle the matter, remarked that we had rejected Dr. Harrison's proposal—that the Convention seemed willing to stay, but that, if the citizens were unwilling to hear us, they (the Convention) were not to blame for that. Dr. R. Thompson remarked that the physicians of Columbus had heard us before in that hall, and had no further need to listen.

Dr. Awl said he had heard enough on one side, and wanted no more—he should go.

We denied that we had rejected any terms, and offered to speak if the audience would be seated.

The leaders, still on their feet, some going and persuading others to go, we proclaimed that, if the house could be obtained, we should lecture in the same place the next evening (May 6th) in answer to Professor Harrison; and we earnestly and cordially invited him and all to stay, promising to give him a fair chance for reply.

Information was given in a newspaper, in handbills, and by private invitation; and the next evening, though the Convention had dispersed, there assembled more than three times as many hearers as the house contained on the previous evening. The hall was crowded, and, with only a few exceptions who necessarily and quietly left about 10 o'clock, they listened to our reply more than three hours, with a degree of attention and interest that is not often equalled, frequently uttering shouts of applause, we suppose to prove Dr. M.'s intimation that they were not willing to hear our defence?—a course of conduct we shall ever remember with gratitude. To their everlasting honor be it spoken, it was an ocular demonstration that medical aristocracy has not swallowed all the independence in this delightful city.

MEDICAL CONVENTION OF THE MINERALITES.—In a discourse on the administration of calomel, Dr. R. Thompson remarked:—"When I administer mercury to my patients, I enjoin the drinking of cold water always; nor could I make out without, near so well as with it. I say this before my medical brethren, and would say it before the world; and I also will state that I have salivated as few patients as any physician within my knowledge." Dr. Harrison rose and expressed his surprise that the gentleman (Dr. T.) should direct cold water in all cases after taking that "Samson of a medicine," as he styled it. He (Dr. H.) gave it in no cases under mercurial treatment, except when there was a high

state of excitement in the system, or when he wished to produce salivation.

They talk about "scientific treatment!" This is science with a vengeance—one M.D. recommending cold water in all states of the system where he administers calomel, and another condemning it in the strongest terms, and each speaking from experience! "T is strange, 't is passing strange."

The above is from the Columbus (O.) Recorder, and shows plainly how well these mineralites agree as to their treatment of the sick;—one gives cold water to prevent salivation—another dares not give it for fear of the consequences, salivation. There must have been "science" somewhere about the late Convention held at Columbus, but which Dr. possessed it, was a question which would puzzle them all to answer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Thomsonian Manual.

As I intimated in my last that it would be inconvenient for me to continue these numbers with regularity in future, I have deemed it expedient to close the series with the present No., by giving a condensed history of the application of the Thomsonian remedies in my own family; with some few closing remarks naturally growing out of the subject.

For the Manual.

SIX YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF A THOMSONIAN.—No. IX.

My wife was subject to that distressing complaint known as the *bilious colic*, from early childhood up to the time that my acquaintance commenced with her, some six years since. She had been treated *scientifically*, taken calomel, and made use of all the means recommended by the faculty in such cases, but without avail. Her attacks were always as often as once a month, and frequently twice; and their duration from twenty-four to forty-eight hours. When these facts were communicated to me, I immediately recommended the Thomsonian remedies; and although her friends were very much prejudiced against them, she determined to give them a trial.—I carried to her some composition, spice bitters, and cayenne—gave her instructions to take the composition every night for the space of one week—bitters three times a day, and to make use freely of the cayenne in any way she best could. She did so: *and from that day to this she has not had an attack of that distressing disease!* Perhaps thrice within this lapse of time, she has felt some premonitory symptoms of the complaint, but recourse to the stimulating medicines prevented its development.

I will now, in as few words as possible, relate

some of the most important cases that have occurred in my family. Let me here remark that a *doctor* has never *darkened* my doors, excepting one instance, when Dr. Samuel Thomson was called in. My wife has twice safely passed through that *trying hour* which none but the *mother* experiences, and each time in strict accordance with the *natural* principles of the Thomsonian practice.

My oldest child, when 16 months of age, had the lung fever. I doctored him with Thomsonian medicines, and in eight or nine days he was restored to perfect health; although my neighbors thought he could not live. My youngest child, when born, was so completely filled up with phlegm that it was with the greatest difficulty it could make any noise, or even breathe. Before it was *twelve hours old*, I administered to it a *lobelia emetic*, which greatly relieved its distress for breath. But as its lungs appeared disordered—frequently coughing—and its difficulty of breathing seemed to return, I repeated the lobelia on the day following; and continued, for more than a week, to give it *lobelia, daily*, until all difficulty of breathing ceased, its cough subsided, and up to the present time, being more than a year, it has not been in the slightest degree affected at its lungs, nor seriously sick in any way.

In June last my eldest child had a *fit*; we immediately turned *tincture of lobelia* into its mouth, and the moment it reached the glands of the throat, his system relaxed, he became sensible, and showed no farther signs of spasmodic affection; nor has any thing of the kind occurred to him since. I have, at the lowest estimate, given one hundred courses of medicine to my friends and acquaintances, and in no one instance have they proved otherwise than salutary.

I stated at the commencement of this series of communications that my sole object was to endeavor to convince my fellow beings of the uselessness of a *family physician*, and of the practicability of the members of every family administering to each other's wants in cases of sickness. If aught that I have written has had a tendency to direct the attention of a *single individual* to this point, I am content.

It will be here proper for me to state that I am a *mechanic*, and have worked, upon an average, from twelve to fourteen hours per day for the last six years, and yet I have found no difficulty in gaining sufficient information of the Thomsonian practice to enable me to prescribe for my family in *all cases* of sickness. And I cannot at this moment call to mind *any case whatever*, wherein I should be at a loss how to proceed. The harmless nature of the Thomsonian remedies, the simplicity of their application, and the moral certainty of their efficacy in all cases

not beyond the reach of human aid, place the administration of them within the reach and capacity of every individual of ordinary abilities and judgment.

I will conclude by expressing my heartfelt respect for that much abused and persecuted man, SAMUEL THOMSON. As a medical reformer and public benefactor he stands before us second to none; and as such, his name is deeply imprinted upon the parchment of the human heart, there to remain as a memento to his usefulness for ages after his vile persecutors, with their insignificant "*sheep skins*," have been wholly forgotten, or remembered only for their "spirit of persecution," or as *scourgers* of the human family.

Trusting that the system of medicine now under consideration, will ere long prove as essentially a *universal blessing*, as it has proven to me a *family blessing*, I subscribe myself, with all due respect, your obedient servant, and well wisher,

ISAAC H. ANDERSON.

Boston, June 5, 1841.

For the Manual.

Thomsonian Infirmary, No. 40 Salem st., }
Boston, June 5, 1841. }

TO MR. B. S. PORTER, COLERAIN, (Ms.)

DEAR BROTHER,—As I promised you should hear from me again, I now intend to redeem that promise, and hope that the few facts which I laid before you in my first letter may have had a tendency to open your eyes to the iniquity and infirmity which is wrapt up in the *old medical theory*. You will perceive that my object in writing is to impress upon your mind the salutary and important truth which has been brought to light by Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON.

Dr. Chaptal when speaking of the "*heroic medicines*," says—"Should their constant and invariable effects through all Europe be found to be good and salutary, they ought to be exhibited. But Government should impose an interdict upon their use, until the most rigid inspection shall have ascertained their safety and established their success—and not suffer proud and pompous practitioners to sport with the lives and happiness of the assembled millions of Europe." And the remarks of Dr. Chaptal have been reiterated by Dr. Rush. While pouring his highest encomiums on the "*Heroic Medicines*," he adds:—"But in the hands of ignorant pretenders, and proud and careless physicians, they are most *fatal* and *destructive* medicines." It is useless to contend with the system of Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, or to deny or rail against it: if the people find it useful and effectual in healing their diseases, science may fight and fight in vain; but if it is not

found efficacious, neither art nor learning will be required to put it down—it will sink like all folly and imposition, by its own worthlessness. It is too late in the day for a set of men to think of overthrowing it—it will start up like Hydra, and gather fresh strength from fresh opposition. Dr. THOMSON is more annoyed now by counterfeiters of his medicines, than by any other opponents—a plain indication of its utility.

The wonderful effects produced by the Thomsonian medicines, must be witnessed before one can appreciate half its greatness. I have seen a man go through a course of medicine who could not get out of his carriage alone when brought to the Infirmary; neither could he walk or stand. We had to put him into the steam box, and put him into bed—his feet and legs swollen very badly, and as you must know, was in a very bad state of inflammatory rheumatism; and in five hours from the time we commenced upon him, he was able to walk very comfortably, was entirely free from pain, and ate a hearty supper. Those of his friends who were unacquainted with our course of treatment in such cases, were afraid he would die, and five of them called in at different times during the day, and great was their surprise to find him walking the room.

As ancient Job felt to exclaim, when he had a view of his own unworthiness, and the perfections of the Almighty—"I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear, but now mine eyes see thee; wherefore I abhor myself in dust and ashes,"—so, in view of what I have seen, I must with boldness and manly honesty utterly abhor a system you have advocated with so much zeal; for it must tremble before Dr. THOMSON's, like Dagon before the Ark of God. And, sir, the mineral doctors, in view of what is going on, shake as did Felix at the preaching of Paul, or Nebuchadnezzar at the hand-writing on the wall. "We have not," says the apostle, in proving the divinity of Christ's doctrines, "followed cunningly devised fables when we made known unto you the coming of our Lord Jesus, but were eye witnesses of his majesty," so I can truly say, that so far as I am acquainted with the Thomsonian system, there is nothing "cunningly devised" nor false about it.—It wears a majesty which is the product of deep research and philosophical investigation, predicated upon the indubitable laws of nature, before which, disease wilts like the mown grass before the meridian sun.

Yours, &c.,

LUTHER PURRINGTON.

P. S.—Since writing the above, the young man who had the inflammatory rheumatism, and who I said was cured, went out immediately, took cold,

and had a violent relapse. He returned to the Infirmary, and we followed Dr. Thomson's general directions or method, and it had a very salutary effect. Three days after, the *measles* made their appearance, and we treated him as usual, by giving a course of medicine, with occasional emetics, steams, and enemas; and I have the pleasure of adding, that he has again left us entirely cured of both diseases.

Yours,

L. P.

For the Manual.

[CERTIFICATE.]

DR. N. S. MAGOON,—Dear Sir—It is with the greatest pleasure that I embrace the present opportunity of expressing my gratitude, and I may say surprise, at the treatment and effect produced by the Thomsonian medicines on me while at your Infirmary. I went to your Infirmary on the 7th of May, (last month,) afflicted with inflammatory rheumatism, so much so, that it was necessary to carry me from the coach in which I rode, to the room provided. This was about 9 o'clock in the morning. A course of medicine was administered, and at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, I walked down stairs without assistance. The courses were repeated, (eight in all,) and at the end of three weeks I found myself in good health. This may not be considered so very quick a cure, by some, but when it is considered that at a previous time I was under the treatment of an M.D. for nearly a year, and that you had the effects of his medicines to contend with; and moreover that at the end of the second week the measles set in, which kept me sick a week longer than I should have been otherwise, I think my case may be considered quite a remarkable one.

Yours, respectfully, G. H. CAMPBELL.

Boston, June 10, 1841.

For the Manual.

TO JAMES OSGOOD,

Editor of the "Boston True Thomsonian":

Sir—The article signed "JUSTICE," which recently appeared in the Manual, has induced you to bestow upon its writer an elaborate notice.—You think the writer of that article manifests a bad temper; that he is, besides, "entirely ignorant of the subject upon which he undertakes to write;" and that his main object is not so much "the good of the cause," as to gratify a spirit of malignity against "the proprietor of the New England Thomsonian Depot, and the editor of the True Thomsonian." These allegations indicate a disordered mind—possibly, (though not very probable,) the "compunctious visitings of conscience."

I believe, sir, (for I am the individual alluded to,) that I understand the merits of the case quite as well as yourself; and that on the score of disinterestedness, I am rather your superior, seeing that I have no pecuniary motive whatever to actuate me. I have an object, I grant, which I am desirous to see accomplished—the public rebuke against all pretenders. But as for attacking you or your partner, from *sinister intentions* as you seem to intimate, the idea is ridiculous. I have never seen either of you; and know nothing farther concerning you, than what I have gathered from an occasional reading of your paper. Do not flatter yourself, sir, that such shallow devices will frighten me from my purpose, or cause me to lose sight of the true question at issue. I mean to express, plainly, my convictions of your course and conduct; extenuating nothing, nor setting down aught in malice. That you are engaged in a reprehensible experiment, I see not how any conscientious man can deny; and that I shall be able to make it appear, I feel morally certain. If, however, I fail in the attempt, and my effort be regarded by honest minds as censorious and unjust, you shall never have occasion to say that I inflicted a wanton injury and refused to make reparation, or, in your own language, "to apologise."

You deny that you and your partner are trespassers on the name and rights of Dr. Thomson; and you confidently challenge me to prove you such, "either in a legal or moral point of view." Should I succeed, you say that you will abandon your post. Now, were you—what you are not—entirely disinterested, impartial, and unprejudiced judges, I should have no doubt of imparting conviction; but, occupying the situation you do, and publicly advertising, as you have, month after month, that Dr. Thomson *sells adulterated medicines*, (meaning, I presume, that he is an impostor!!) I am at a loss to know in what you consider law or morality to consist, nor do I wonder that you sarcastically enquire, "What are Dr. Thomson's rights?" Most undoubtedly, you have long ago come to the conclusion that he has none. And if so, my labor of attempting to convince *you*, will of course be fruitless; but I am sanguine in the belief, that to every unbiassed and conscientious mind I shall prove conclusively, that neither legally nor morally can you justify your conduct.

Dr. Thomson, you contend, has not at the present time, a valid patent. You admit, if I understand you, that he *has* had such a patent, but it expired by due course of law in 1837, and at the time of its expiration was not renewed: conse-

quently, his name and medicines are now public property, and hence your privilege to use them.— This is the argument you set up to prove your *legal* right. Now, if it can be made to appear, that Dr. Thomson DID renew the patent which expired in 1837, and which, by your own admission, is *valid*, your legal right, on which you confidently rest, becomes a legal violation; and you are, by your own argument, a trespasser! I contend that such is the fact, for thus the case stands; and I demand that you meet it fairly, and, if you can, show proof against me. Dr. Thomson says his patent *was* renewed; and you admit, in the following illustration, that if it was, it is now valid:

“To illustrate, suppose that Dr. Thomson, in 1823, instead of patenting his medicines had patented a plough, known by the name of the Thomsonian plough. It proved to be an excellent implement, and at the expiration of the patent in 1837, it was still better than any other plough in use. He does not renew his patent, and the plough becomes public property. Every mechanic in the United States *then* had a right to make and vend this plough, and to advertise it as the ‘*Thomsonian plough*.’ ‘Justice’ himself will not dispute us on this point.”

“Justice” cannot see the force of your reasoning. Your illustration, instead of being against me, is altogether in my favor. “He does not renew his patent, and the plough becomes public property.” Granted. But if he *had* renewed it—how then? Why, it would remain private property. And this is precisely the case with his medicines. Dr. Thomson *did* renew his patent; and you, by your own showing, are a trespasser! But you may persist in denying the renewal of the patent; and if so, the question then becomes one of veracity. In that case, you will excuse me, Mr. Osgood, if I adhere to the opinion that Dr. Thomson is better acquainted with his own affairs than any of his enemies can be. If to credit the Dr., be proof that I am “entirely ignorant of the subject,” why I will come and learn of you what his business is, as soon as he authorises you to become his guardian and mouth-piece. There is no need, sir, to pursue this part of the subject any farther, to prove that you admit the very point you attempt to disprove; yet, for my own amusement, I will present another extract in confirmation:—

“All the exclusive rights, which Dr. Thomson *now* has, are held under his new patent, dated May 6, 1836. Of this patent the Manual, the organ of Dr. Thomson says:—

“Sometime previous to the expiration of the *first* patent, Dr. Thomson made application for a *new* patent, and letters were granted him. The nature of said letters patent comprised the whole ground of the old patent, and in effect renewed the old.”

I can see no difficulty in understanding this. It conveys to my mind nothing more nor less than the fact, that Dr. Thomson, *before the expiration of the very patent which you admit to be valid*, renewed it. But you are determined to misrepresent every thing. You say—

“Now Dr. Thomson ought to know that he cannot so far impose upon the credulity of thinking men, as to make them believe that he can take out a *new* patent that will renew an *old* one. An idea so preposterous we should not have noticed, had it not been sanctioned by Dr. Thomson himself. Dr. Thomson’s *new* patent is, in its present form, not valid.”

Dr. Thomson’s new patent is valid. It was obtained, according to the appointed legal mode, from the Patent Office of the U. S.; and the letters patent are in the Doctor’s possession. Do you mean to say, sir, that the United States has granted him a *spurious patent*? or what do you mean by your eternal iteration of the illegality of his patent? Why is not his patent as valid as any other patent granted by the United States?

But enough on this point. I pass now to the consideration of your *moral* right; and here, if you are a man of honor, you cannot fail of being self-convicted.

You say, that you have a moral right to use the name and medicines of Dr. Thomson for your profit and advantage. I deny it; and I defy you, Mr. JAMES OSGOOD, to substantiate the truth of your declaration. You have *no* moral right, sir, to use his name. For why should you have? Did he ever grant you the use of it? No. Then by what moral right do you claim and employ it?—None at all, sir. You have appropriated his name without his consent. It is his own property, and I repeat, you have no right to make use of it without his free permission. You know this, sir, as well as I do. You know, too, that the name of THOMSON owes its present commanding elevation entirely to his great genius and still greater suffering and misfortunes. Then, for the sake of justice, truth and honor, let him have the benefit of his discoveries; and henceforth let *your* fame and medicines rest on their real foundation—the name of Osgood. Relinquish a title to which you have no just claim, and let your endeavors be, to rise or fall on your own individual merits. So shall borrowed plumage be exchanged for that which is intrinsic and real, and honest intentions win more renown than the most strenuous efforts to gratify an immoral ambition.

Respectfully yours, &c.,

JUSTICE.

Boston, June 10, 1841.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.
 Acton, Robert Chaffin
 Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
 Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
 Ashby, F A Kendall
 Andover, John Harding
 Ashby, Thomas Gibson
 Colerain, O J Martin, C W Shattuck, & R Dewey
 Chesterfield, Amos Bisby, and V. Nichols
 Danvers, Amos Trask
 " Joseph Shaw Jr
 " South Parish, James Worcester
 Essex, Eli F Burnham
 Eastham, Scotter Cobb
 Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
 " M. O. Bradford
 " Isaac Wood, Jr.
 Fitchburg, John Gibbs
 Gardner, S C Phinney
 Gloucester, Samuel Friend, Gideon Lane
 and Geo Saville
 Harvard, J. Hosmer, and P. F. Osgood
 Leveret, Myron Ashley
 Lowell, Aaron P. Holt.
 Lynn, Perkins H Dow
 Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney
 Milford, S Sumner
 Munson, Cyrus Day
 Munroe, Maturin Ballou
 North Danvers, E. B. Putnam.
 North Bridgewater, Nahum J Smith
 North Reading, Eben'r Eaton
 " Thomas Abbot
 North Andover, L. T. Presson
 New Bedford, Prince Weeks, and G. Nye
 Newburyport, G W Goodwin
 " J Blood
 Orleans, Vickery Sparrow
 Plymouth, Samuel Barnes, and E. Macomber
 Reading, N K J Vinal
 South Andover, Jacob Jenkins
 Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
 Shelburne Falls, E. A. Rankin
 Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
 Salem, R W Merrill
 " David E. Saunders
 Springfield, Sirguy Noble
 Sturbridge, D Mason, and Wm H Rice
 Stoughton, Luther Belcher
 Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh
 Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
 Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
 Walpole, Williard Lewis
 Waltham, J Shepley
 Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
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MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
 Camden, Thomas Annis
 East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon
 Eastport, John Shackford
 Frankfort, George Kimball
 Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
 Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher
 Machias, Wm. Smith

Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster.
 Norway, Jotham Goodnow
 Orrington, James A. Swett
 Portland, Dan'l Sawyer and Rev. C. D. Ffrench
 Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
 Thomaston, Horatio Alden
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NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, Bethuel Keith
 Exeter, S. J. Perkins
 Kingston, John Dearborn,
 Langdon, Royal Shumway
 Meredith, William M. Ladd
 Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
 New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
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 Pembroke, Moses Martin
 Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
 Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
 Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Brookfield, Aaron Cleveland
 Bennington, George Boardman Jr
 Chelsea, Benj. Grout
 Chesterfield, Sally Paine
 Charlemont, David Todd
 Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
 Dover, Daniel Leonard and Washington Leonard
 East Randolph, P, Smith
 Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
 Halifax, S. Plumb, and Eben'r M. Clark
 " Alvah Brooks, and John Reid, Esq.
 Green River, Sam'l Cutting
 Guilford, Henry Packer, and Philip Martin
 Londonderry, J. Arnold
 Randolph, Jehiel Smith
 Readsboro', Leavitt Ballou
 Woodstock, Nathan Cushing, and J. Holt
 Whitingham, W. Goodnow
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RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason
 New Shoreham, (Block Island) Simeon Babcock
 Woonsocket, Parker A. Haven

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson
 New Haven, George Munson
 Norwich, O B Lyman

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, William Harden

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson
 New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114' Elev
 enth St., near 5th Avenue
 Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
 Troy, Ira Wood

NEW JERSEY.

Hightstown, Lawrence Taylor

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
 Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount, A. Willford

Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only places in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his **GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st, and at No. 71-2 WATER STREET, near Washington street.**

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, *[better than those which have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon]* why do they use his name by which to sell their *better* medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against a gang in Blackstone street calling themselves Thomsonians, with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmary at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman. whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheeps' clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The Infirmary and Store at No. 40 Salem st. are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.


Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

The following is a list of some of the medicines for sale at the above establishment, with their prices annexed:—

Cayenne,	\$1.00 per lb.	12½ cts.	per oz.
Composition Powder,	1.00	"	12½ "
Conserve Hollyhock,	1.00	"	12½ "
" " Pills,	1.25	"	12½ "
Coffee, or coarse Bayb.	.50	"	12½ "
Cancer Plaster,			25 "
Golden Seal,	1.50	"	12½ "
Ginger, ground,	0.25		
Headache Snuff,	1.25	"	12½ "
Healing Salve,	1.00	"	12½ "
Lobelia, green	2.00	"	25 "
Lobelia Seed, pulv.	3.00	"	25 "
Murrh Gum,	1.00	"	12½ "
Nerve Powder,	2.50	"	20 "
Poplar Bark,	0.50	"	12½ "
Raspberry Leaves,	0.50	"	12½ "
Spiced Bitters,	1.00	"	12½ "
Strengthening Plaster,	1.00	"	20 "
Slippery Elm Bark,	1.00	"	12½ "
" " pulv	1.05	"	12½ "
Unicorn Root,	2.50	"	25 "
Woman's Friend,	1.00	"	12½ "
Volatile Salts,	1.50	"	25 " per bot
Cough Syrup,	\$1.00 per bottle.		

Nerve Ointment,	3.00	per bot.	25	"	"
No. 5 Syrup,	1.00	"		"	"
Eye Water,			25	"	"
Meadow Fern Ointment,			25	"	"
Pepper Sauce,	0.42	"		"	"
Rheumatic Drops,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Tincture Lobelia,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Third Preparation,	2.00	"	25	"	"
Vegetable Jelly,	1.00	"			
Wine Bitters,	0.75	"			

DR. THOMSON will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be *post paid* or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the **MANUAL** can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

WANTED,

BLACK CHERRY, BLACK BIRCH AND POP-LAR BARK.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, requests people in whose vicinity Poplar, Black Cherry, and Black Birch Bark grows, to gather a quantity of the bark of each of the above trees. Also the bitter herb Balmoney,—and those who can to procure the oil of Pennyroyal, for which a fair price will be paid on delivery at No. 40 Salem street.

Boston, June 1, 1841.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, JULY 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 16.

CHARITY.

Let such as feel oppression's load,
Thy tender pity share;
And let the helpless, hopeless poor
Be thy peculiar care.

Go, bid the hungry orphan be
With thine abundance bless'd;
Invite the wand'rer to thy gate,
And spread the couch of rest.

Let him who pines with piercing cold,
By thee be warmed and clad;
Be thine the blissful task, to make
The downcast mourner glad.

'Then pleasant as the morning light,
In peace shall pass thy days:
And heart-approving, conscious joy
Illuminate thy ways.

AN ADDRESS

Delivered at Sandy Grove Church, Dallas Co.,
Ala., February 9, 1841,—the Birth-day of Doct.
SAMUEL THOMSON;—by William Henry Fonerden, M. D.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—The occasion of our present assembling is one of no small interest. Nations in all ages, have deemed it consistent with their dignity, and creditable to the finer feelings of humanity, to unite in doing honor to the illustrious; and in accordance with this custom, we have met to commemorate that day, on which the natal star of THOMSON first peered above the horizon, to burst, in after years, upon the beholder, in all the glory of a fadeless lustre.

In this instance, however, there is one thing remarkable and peculiar. Other mighty ones have passed away to the shades of death, ere the pæans of rejoicing multitudes have broken on their listless ears, or the gorgeous decorations of the gay pageant been unfolded to their sightless eyes. When their death-lulled senses could no longer drink in the sweets of merited praise, or their hearts thrill with the stirring notes of Fame's loud trump, their achievements have been sung and their names enshrined within the casket of undying memory.

Not so with the patriarch of medical reform. He, like the sturdy oak that braves the fury of the ruthless tempest, and stands uninjured when the storm is past yet remains among us, a living monument of Divine Providence, and the efficacy of his own superior remedies,—a cut-

ting rebuke to medical errors, and a beacon to the invalid. The seed which he sowed in his early years have borne plentifully; and he is permitted to taste in person the fruit of incipient immortality. While Napoleon heeds not the too long deferred obsequy which mourning France pays his now honored remains; and while the booming cannon which will soon proclaim the returning anniversary of the Father of his Country, will not break the silence that hangs over Mount Vernon; Samuel Thomson this day hears, in the joyous acclamations of his grateful disciples, the first symphonious warblings of an anthem which shall swell louder and still louder, until it is lost amid the roar of conflicting elements, and the crash of falling worlds.

But how has he gained this elevated and enviable station? By deep devotion to the cause of medical reform. He saw on every hand the ravages of disease, rendered still more desolating by an erroneous treatment. The agonizing groans of the dying, and the embittered tears of the living, cried aloud for relief. Here he saw the maiden, redolent of personal charms, fade wither and perish; there the athletic youth, yield, sink, and fall, beneath the assaults of the foe to man. By the twinkling ray of the taper, as it flickered in its socket he discovered the young mother bend over the dying couch of her first born; or the disconsolate wife, almost bursting with anguish, as she feels the enfeebled pulse, and listens to the short breathings of the loved one of her soul. The furrows of age serve as conduits for the flood of riven affection. He perceived the Genius of Medicine, weep over the fruitlessness of her efforts to save, and miscalled Science stand aghast at the ruin she had made. Sympathy for the afflicted and the bereaved, struck an accordant string in his own heart; and he resolved on attempting the rescue of his fellow man from such dreadful ills.

This was not to be accomplished by pursuing the same path with the then popular modes of treatment. These, he saw, were scattering “fire-brands, arrows, and death,” in their career. They were adding to the chill breath of the plague, the Boreal blast of Iceland, and to the fire of the raging fever, the scorching Harmattan of Ethiopia; they were poisoning the fountain of life and drying up the stream of vitality; they were corroding the golden bowl and the silver cord until the last link that fettered the spirit to earth was severed; they were peopling the

cheerless regions of the dead, and preparing the human family as dainties for the grave worm. He therefore wisely inferred that, to effect this object, he must employ remedies of an opposite tendency, and pursue an opposite mode of treatment. But this was a task of Herculean magnitude for one who was unversed in the lore of past ages, and unskilled in the science of the present. For him no sun shone in the firmament of medicine to dissipate the Egyptian darkness by which he was surrounded: and even though there had been one, there were no land marks to guide him in his pilgrimage to the temple of truth. Yet invited forward by philosophy, and persuaded to follow her by the voice of reason, he essayed the venturous step, and lo! as if he had trodden on the train of some extensive mine, which might be fired by percussion, light streamed forth on every hand; while the dreadful explosion filled the air with the splintered fragments of unsound theories and hypothetical speculations. Seizing his torch, he kindled it ere the bright flash had died away, and traced by its steady rays the labyrinthine path thus momentarily revealed.

He sought not to disembowel earth for some potent remedy for disease, but saw that Nature in the trembling leaflet, the ripening bud, the matured seed, or the sap-flowing root of her vegetable productions, had provided agents of health as safe as they are simple, as powerful, as safe, and as efficacious as powerful. He strove not for the discovery of a specific, but turned his thoughts upon the invention of one general mode of medication which might fulfill all the indications of cure in every case and under every circumstance. He succeeded in his design: and that which was the reward of his toilsome labor in youth, is now the glory of his declining years. And as long as a single pod of *Capsicum* ripens beneath the torrid zone of Africa, or one modest blossom of *Lobelia* decks the waste places of our Western Hemisphere; as long as vapour continues to obey the laws of gravitation, and rises to commingle with the clouds, or the last drop of blood of the last man to flow in his veins; so long shall the founder of the Botanic system receive the homage of a grateful world.

In the classification of his *materia medica*, he adopted three grand divisions, which, for want of technical terms, or for the sake of simplicity, he denominated, "rough, hot, and bitter," as possessing the properties required for the cure of disease of every modification. In more scientific language, they are astringents, stimulants, and tonics.

The first, astringents, he employed for various purposes, though all inservient to the same end. Observation had taught him that in all cases of disease, there was an accumulation of

a morbid secretion: existing primarily in the alimentary canal, and diffused to a greater or less extent, throughout the system.

This morbid matter, which in its turn aggravates that condition by which it was originally produced, he called canker.

It is, in my opinion, nothing more nor less, than coagulating lymph or fibrine, deprived of its vitalizing properties, and exuded by the follicles of the mucous membranes. One of the most important objects, therefore of the curative process, is to check the morbid action of the secreting vessels, so as to prevent the formation of this matter. This is to be accomplished by the exhibition of astringents—Thomson's number three or canker medicine. The canker already formed, is, further, to be removed from the system, lest its continuance should increase the violence of the symptoms. Here, too, astringents are indicated; for by consolidating it, they detach it from its points of adhesion to the mucous membrane of the stomach and bowels, and it is either ejected from the former by vomiting, or passes off from the latter by alvine evacuation.

There can be little doubt, I think, that the action of this class of medicines is three-fold; medicinal, chemical, and mechanical. Their influence in altering the vitiated functions of the secretory apparatus, and restoring them to their healthy condition, sufficiently proves the first. Their chemical action is seen in the consolidation and detachment of canker; since this matter, being coagulable lymph, or fibrin, deprived of its vitalizing principle, is no longer subject to the control of vital action, but is now under the influence of chemical affinities; and coagulable lymph, or fibrin, is the very essence of the muscular fibre, which, we know, is consolidated, (as in the common process of tanning,) by tanning and galic acid,—the prominent chemical principles of canker medicines, from which they derive their astringency: their mechanical action is manifested by their more beneficial effects, when taken in substance. Indeed Dr. THOMSON himself says,—to quote his own simple, but expressive language,—“they scour the stomach and bowels.”

And shall the bloated spirit of self-hallowed bigotry be permitted to step forth in the pomp of pride, and claim the *Sanctum Sanctorum* of science, as her exclusive dwelling-place? Shall prejudice be allowed, unresisted, to paralyze the nerve of a nation's ear, that they may not hear the voice of truth? Shall these two curses of community be suffered to throw over the name of THOMSON, the pall of everlasting forgetfulness? The Genius of enlightened benevolence cries no, in thunder tones, which rouse the swelling billows of the startled Atlantic, and wake the slumbers of the stormless Pacific. The reverbera-

ting hills of his own native Granite State, ring with the echoes of the cry; and we in assembling to commemorate his nativity, say to the Lethean surge, with more than Canute's power, "thus far shalt thou go, but no farther." And I will add, the man who evinces such bold originality, and unrivalled stretch of thought in the selection of his materia medica, could not rest quiet in a grave of oblivion.

But follow him further in his progress, and the philosophy of his treatment is still more apparent. The secretories, thus checked in their morbid action, must be roused to a healthy performance of their functions; nature must be aided to deposit near some outlet of the body, those noxious particles, which, floating in the sluggish circulation, either engender or aggravate disease; the current of the blood must be quickened by the increased action of its propelling forces; the excretories must be opened; and the conservative powers of the constitution must be assisted. All this is to be accomplished by stimulants, or that class of remedies, which he designates as "hot." These he chose with so wise a reference to the actual wants of the animal economy; and those general laws which regulate and govern it, that no lesion of structure, or impairment of function, follows their employment;—no exhaustion of sensorial power, or increase of irritability, accompanies their use:—no depravement of appetite, or feeling of inanition, is numbered amongst their consequences.

Strange, that even those who should have been able at a single glance, to discover the intimate and inseparable connexion existing between disease and a reduction of the vital heat, and the consequent adaptation of these stimulants to the restoration of the one and the removal of the other, should see but destruction and death in their exhibition; or rather I should say, that their mental vision should be dazzled to total blindness by the very splendor of those luminaries, which should have lent them aid. Those principles which should have served as a cause-way by which they might pass the morass of ignorance, were but stumbling blocks in their way: and then as if the phylanthropic THOMSON had been the cause of their multifarious errors, he was made the target of their vengeful aim. Every arrow from the quiver of persecution, was steeped in the fell Manchineel of ceaseless hatred, and sped from a bow strained to the point of breaking. Still, protected by the impenetrable ægis which he proudly bore aloft, he withstood the furious assault.

To complete the process of removing morbid matter from the system, relaxing the constricted blood-vessels, changing the impaired qualities of the vital-fluid, equalizing the circulation, relieving the pulmonary oppression, and restoring

the function of the skin, he likewise employed Lobelia as an emetic, and the vapor bath. The sound judgment he exhibited is not only approved by experience, but founded on the firmest principles of true science. What are the effects of the preparations of antimony, copper, and zinc, given as emetics? Violent straining, copious watery discharges, protracted nausea, depravement of digestion, increased irritability of the stomach, and lasting debility. Poisonous to the living principle, they obstruct the healthy functions, and corrode the delicate tissues of the body, until the complex machinery of which the human frame is constituted, either stops its motions, or performs them in so irregular and imperfect a manner, that affliction and misery form the after destiny of the sufferer.

The operation of lobelia is of a far different character. The vomiting which it produces, is effective, though not accompanied with severe retching; the discharges consist chiefly of canker, or the morbid matter of which I have spoken; the nausea and irritability are quickly allayed; the appetite is improved and the digestive organs strengthened; and the whole system soon regains its natural tone under the assistance thus afforded the recuperative powers of nature.

How then can we reconcile the representations, of the poisonous properties and deleterious effects of this invaluable medicine, with the vaunted knowledge of the medical profession? Charity would throw a thick veil over the discrepancy; for were we to allow the high attainments of which they boast, we should virtually charge them with willful falsehood, inasmuch as the tales of its destructive tendency and effects, are wholly unfounded. We therefore presume they originate in ignorance of its medical qualities. True, they may have studied its botanical characteristics and analyzed its chemical constituents; but its medicinal properties, uses, and effects, they have not yet learned. Startled by the denunciations of the prejudiced, with a strange inconsistency, they have ever refused to test its virtues, because, forsooth, it has been said to be poisonous, as if other articles which they employ, were not tenfold more deadly; and thus they have surrendered themselves the willing dupes of error, and tamely permitted the fetters of ignorance to be rivetted more closely upon them.

I have said that THOMSON still farther subverted the designs of the healing art by means of the vapor bath. In every modification of disease, we meet with circumstances requiring its use. Sometimes, the perspiration is obstructed or the determining powers are reflected upon internal organs; in either case, producing oppression of the lungs: at others, the circulation is

impeded, or the qualities of the blood are altered, rendering it more difficult of coagulation and presenting the buffy coat which is seen in inflammatory disorders: again, the capillary system is constricted, giving rise to augmented temperature of the surface, and increased pulsation of the arteries; or it is relaxed and enfeebled, causing a cold and clammy skin.

To fulfil these various indications no more efficacious means can be adopted than the vapor bath. By opening the pores and promoting perspiration, or calling back the determination to the surface, it affords an outlet to vitiate matter, removes the oppression of the lungs, and relieves the difficult breathing; for it will be found that the functions of the skin and lungs, bear a close relation to each other; and when that of the shin is obstructed that of the latter will be proportionately increased: hence the short, hurried and laborious breathing, which often is a prominent symptoms of disease as well as the necessity of the vapor bath. To equalize the circulation, the constriction of the blood vessels must be removed: and to restore the blood itself to its healthy condition its superabundant serum, from which its difficult coagulation and buffy appearance arise, must be carried off by perspiration. And when the altered state of the blood depends on improper decarbonization the inhalation of vapor will be beneficial, by bringing it into more immediate contact with the rarified oxygen. Further in relaxing the capillaries, the vapor bath diminishes the increased heat of the surface by preventing the evolution of the latent caloric of the blood and moderates the force and frequency of the heart's action; and where the skin is enfeebled it removes the clammy coldness by imparting warmth. Finally by removing from the pores sebaceous, matter and the saline particles there deposited, it prepares the skin for the healthful performance of its appropriate offices.

Thus, in whatever light we view the vapor bath, we discover its great importance and utility in the treatment of disease. It appears indeed as one of the most valuable means of the remedial process; tho' where each is necessary to the perfection of the whole, it is impossible to tell which is the most indispensable, or least essential. The conjunction of these remedies, so as to effect in five or six hours what under other treatment required as many days and often weeks constitutes the chief glory of THOMSON. Here was a fine opportunity for the display of original inventive genius, and well did he improve it.—Stripping the veil of mysticism, from the face of medical science, he studied deeply her distorted features, and read in the indecision of her changeful countenance, the doom of nations, and the victories of death. Bold in his concep-

tions, correct in his deductions and daring in his execution, he reared for the afflicted, an asylum of architectural symmetry, over whose portals Fame has inscribed, in letters of living light "To THE IMMORTAL THOMSON."

In this retreat he studied the mysteries of that massive volume, whose every leaf was a son of affliction, and whose every letter, a modification of disease: in other words he learned the nature of disease at the bed side of his patients. Here he was led to the discovery of those laws which were instituted by Divine Wisdom for the preservation of life. He saw that heat, which he thence termed the vital principle, is necessary for the production of the vital phenomena, and that a disturbance of its equilibrium is disease. These positions, I am aware, have been attacked, with the vain hope of razing to the ground the noble edifice he had reared thereon; but as the sea girt rock withstands the surge of the towering billow, which bursts in harmless spray and sinks again to the bosom of its mother wave, so they resist the combined powers of ridicule, sophistry, and perversion.

Not to dwell on the arguments which confirm his logical deductions, I will merely notice one objection, which to the superficial observer, would seem to annihilate the fundamental principles of Thomsonism: I allude to the increased temperature of the body in febrile and inflammatory affections. It must be obvious that if an augmentation of the animal temperature can be substantiated, the doctrine of a diminution or disturbance of the equilibrium of heat, being disease, is overturned and in its fall, buries beneath its smouldering ruins, the unity of disease, and the philosophy of one general mode of treatment.

To what, then shall we attribute this increased heat admitting, for the sake of argument the position to be true? Either to an accumulation of blood in the parts; immoderate action of the heart and arteries; or friction of the globules of the blood. To neither of these causes however, can, this phenomenon be attributed, since in reality it is entirely of a suppositious character.

That the mere accumulation of blood cannot be productive of an increase of heat, any one may easily convince himself, by adding one quart of boiling water to another quart of the same temperature, when he will find that the whole quantity is still at boiling heat, and no more. Now, if the addition of boiling water, does not raise its temperature, neither can the addition of blood to blood.

Immoderate action of the heart and arteries can augment the heat of the body in only one of two ways; first by increasing the circulation through the lungs, and thereby causing a more

rapid oxygenation of the blood : or secondly by causing greater friction between the globules of the blood. The idea, however, of a more rapid oxygenation of the blood following its increased momentum, is more plausibly than correct. I have already adverted to the proportionate relation existing between the functions of the skin and lungs, and shown that when perspiration from the former is obstructed, exhalation from the latter is increased. In febrile and inflammatory diseases healthy perspiration is not effected : hence, the lungs have a double duty to perform : and it would seem that the increased velocity of the blood, is intended rather to augment pulmonary transpiration, than for a more rapid oxygenation of the blood itself. Besides, it is not rational to suppose that the latter process could be efficiently accomplished, when we remember that the quantity of air inspired, under the circumstances we are now considering, is smaller than usual, and more speedily expelled.

Nor does the doctrine of friction afford the objector to Thomsonism better grounds for argument in favor of the theory of increased heat. Ordinarily, the friction of a fluid, even when passing through an inelastic aperture, or a rigid tube, does not produce any elevation of temperature : how much less could this result follow from the friction of the blood against the coats of the arteries, the very elasticity of which seems designed to obviate friction and prevent an increase of heat. Again : if the elevation of temperature is caused by friction, then that elevation must be in direct proportion to the velocity of the circulation ; but the facts in the case prove, that while the greatest amount of heat is generated in the capillaries, the blood in these very vessels moves 5233 times slower than that just bounding from the heart ; or to express it mathematically, the increase of heat is in inverse ratio with the momentum of the blood. Friction, therefore does not augment the animal heat.

Thus you see, Ladies and gentlemen, how far from truth the medical profession have been led in their fruitless efforts to explain a phenomenon which does not exist. And when we would endeavor to convince them of their error, in order to save our fellow beings from its ruinous consequences, we are branded with presumption and ignorance. Dr. Thomson, I admit, might have been ignorant of the causes, and modes of explaining certain facts connected with medicine ; yet this did not render them less the facts, or those who believed them fools. Men knew that a bubble of soap suds would rise in the air, and an apple fall to the ground, yet their ignorance of the reasons, to unravel which required the master spirits of Galileo and Newton, did not render the facts less true, or less susceptible of demonstration ; so the inability of Dr. Thomson

to reconcile, in scientific language, the apparent increase with the actual diminution of heat in fever, does not render his theory less philosophical.

But you ask me, if I really believe that in febrile and inflammatory disease, there is an actual loss of heat. I answer without hesitancy, I do. But again, why do patients laboring under fever complain of being hot ? Because of the increase of sensibility, by which a more than ordinary impression is made upon the nerves by the usual quantity of heat. And yet once more, why does the skin of a feverish person feel hot to another ? Because of the more rapid evolution of the latent caloric of the blood. It is a well known principle of chemistry that when a substance passes from a rarer to a denser state, it parts with a portion of its latent caloric, while its capacity for caloric is diminished. Thus compression will evolve heat.

This principle then fully explains the apparent increase of temperature, and beautifully reconciles it with our theory of an actual loss. The Cullenian doctrine of spasm of the minute arteries is generally received, with some modifications, by the medical profession. Fordyce supposes the spasm to effect the arterial system of the whole body ; and it is evident that the capillaries are at least constricted. Now, this constriction, or spasm compresses the blood into a smaller space, and by that compression forces it to give off some of its latent caloric ; while its passage communicates to the touch, the sensation of increased heat. Hence, there is an actual diminution, when there appears to be an elevation of temperature.

But another question arises here : Why does bleeding cool a fever, if the heat is not increased ? Certainly, not by the abstraction of caloric, which you can easily prove by the converse of the experiment I mentioned before. If you take a quart from a gallon of boiling water, the three quarts remaining still boil, because the heat has not been lessened by reducing the quantity of water : so neither does the abstraction of a portion of the blood by venesection, diminish the temperature of the whole mass. Bleeding, however, cools the fever on the very principle I have just advanced ; that is by diminishing the pressure on the blood produced by the constriction of the vessels, and, consequently, preventing the too rapid evolution of its caloric.

Is not bleeding, then, of service ? For the time, it may be ; but its consequences are ruinous in the extreme. Besides depriving the blood of a large proportion of its coaguable lymph,—the nutrient portion, the very pabulum of life,—it diminishes its capacity for caloric, by failing to remove the compressing power ; for it must be remembered, that bleeding relieves the pressure

on the blood, merely by lessening the volume of the fluid, and not by removing the constriction of the vessels; so that, when the usual quantity of blood is reformed, the same compression takes place again, and the capacity for caloric is still further reduced.

How easy, therefore, on these principles, to account for the protracted sickness and tedious convalescence, as well as the numerous deaths, under the old school practice. Even should the patient survive the treatment, the restorative powers having been dreadfully weakened, and the capacity of the blood for the principle on which depend the phenomena of life, having been fearfully diminished, no wonder that he should linger long on the confines of disease, ere the fatal spell that binds him can be broken. To beguile the lengthened hours, he would fain pore over the impassioned eloquence of poetry, the witchery of romance, or the abstruse principles of science; but alas! his mind is all unstrung; he would taste varied dainties prepared by the kindness of sympathizing friends, but his fastidious palate revolts at even the most inviting dish: he would walk abroad to cheer him in the rays of a genial sun, or to read the wisdom of Deity in the heavens and his goodness on earth, but his enfeebled limbs refuse him support!

And here, as we pass, we have another glimpse of the philosophy of Thomson, in the selections of his tonics, or those remedies which he calls "bitter." Like all other classes of his *materia medica*, these were chosen from the vegetable kingdom, are possessed of no deleterious qualities, and make no further drafts on the constitution. All tending to the restoration of the digestive powers, and consequently promoting assimilation and nutrition, they perfect the work commenced by astringents, stimulants, and emetics. The disease once broken up, the convalescent steps so suddenly into the vigor of former days, that he can scarce realize his sickness. The smile that curls his lip, tells of physical relief; the carnation that mantles his cheek, proclaims the return of health; and the flash of his kindling eye, speaks the regained supremacy of intellect.

Let the world, therefore, no longer scoff at Thomson's ignorance. His theory is science concentrated; and his practice, success embodied. He has bound Disease to his triumphal chariot wheel. Death, affrighted, urges the Pale Horse to his utmost speed, in the chase before him; and the Grave, like the disturbed shell-fish of the deep, closes her garping mouth at his presence. For nearly half a century has he battled with error, under a bloodless banner. Enemies have been bound, hand and foot, in the chains of truth; and friends rejoice in the blessings he

has conferred on mankind, and in the preservation of his useful life.

O what a bright page in the history of his eventful career, is this day! Seventy two years ago his birth-cry pierced the rock-girt wilds of New Hampshire. His name, perhaps unregistered in the records of the parish, was enrolled on the calendar of fame; nor have the oppression of legislative tyranny, the efforts of suborned justice, and the chill damps of Newburyport jail, all conjoined, been sufficient to erase it.—Who would not endure the suffering of his youth, for the enjoyment of his age? Fifty years since he scarce could find an adherent;—to-day, he numbers FOUR MILLIONS! Glorious achievement! To conquer such a multitude, unaided and alone, without the assistance of fire or faggot,—rack or torture, sword or spear!

Many have toiled long and arduously, and at last sunk upon the bosom of their mother earth, consigned to temporary oblivion, until some mighty revolution, like a terrible earthquake, should again throw forth to the gaze of wondering nations the splendid trophies they had won, and bid future generations do them homage.—Others have "fretted their hour" on the stage of existence, flattered and applauded by the giddy throng; but when the surf of death swelled up on the beach of Time, and bore them away in its recoil, it washed their foot prints from the faithless sand and not a trace was left to tell that they had been. There, too, on that beach, stands the venerable THOMSON;—Age undecided whether to give him a passport to eternity, and Immortality by his side, singing, "First in health, first in sickness, and first in the memory of his countrymen!"

ON POISON.

Many articles now in use as medicine, and considered as wholesome and useful in restoring the sick to health, are known and acknowledged to be poisons, the direct tendency of which is to destroy health and life. This being the fact, it seems hard to reconcile to principles of common sense, that an article, that tends to destroy the life of a well man, could be useful to the sick. Some say that disease is a poison, and in order to kill it, we must use a greater poison. Then a man who is stung by an insect, would do well to let a venomous snake bite him; or to extinguish a spark of fire, we must throw on a shovel of hot embers. Would it not be more rational to use water to quench fire, and counter-poisons to destroy the effects of poison? Is not disease to be treated on the same principle?

Others believe that every article contains more or less poison, and food in order to digest must contain a little. But who can believe that ar-

ticles which strengthen and revive the mental and bodily powers must contain a certain part which tends directly to weaken and depress them? It is true, that poison may be extracted from most or all articles, but not without the process of distillation or fermentation, by which it is made altogether another article. We have therefore evidence to believe, that our intelligent Creator never intended poisons to be used for food or medicine.

THE EFFECTS OF TOBACCO ON MAN.

In small doses, tobacco causes a sensation of heat in the throat, and sometimes a feeling of warmth at the stomach; these effects, however, are less obvious when the remedy is taken in the liquid form, and largely diluted. By repetition it usually operates as a diuretic, and less frequently as a laxative. In larger doses it provokes nausea, vomiting and purging.—Though it seldom gives rise to abdominal pain, it introduces a most distressing sensation of sinking at the pit of the stomach. It occasionally acts as anodyne, or more rarely promotes sleep. But its most remarkable effects are languor, febleness, relaxation of muscles, trembling of the limbs, great anxiety, and tendency to faint. Vision is frequently enfeebled—the idea confused—the pulse small and weak—the respiration is somewhat laborious—the surface cold and clammy, or bathed in cold sweat—and in extreme cases convulsive movements are observed. In excessive doses the effects are of the same kind, but more violent in degree.

Snuff. Lanzoni states that an individual fell into a state of somnolency, and died lethargic on the twelfth day, in consequence of taking too much snuff. The habitual use of this substance blunts the sense of smell, and alters the tone of the voice; but I am unacquainted with any other well ascertained effects, though Cullen ascribes loss of appetite and dyspepsia to it. I have known several inveterate snuff-takers, who, after many years' use of this substance, have discontinued the use of it with impunity; but Dr Cullen states that when the discharge of mucus is considerable, the ceasing or suppression of it by abstaining from snuff, is ready to occasion the disorders of the head-ache, tooth-ache and ophthalmia, which it had formerly relieved.

The smoking of tobacco, by those unaccustomed to it, gives rise to all the before described effects of large and excessive doses. A very interesting case which had almost terminated fatally, is related by Dr. Marshall Hall. It was that of a young man who, for his first essay, smoked two pipes. Gmellin mentions two cases of death from smoking, in one of seven-

teen in the other of eighteen pipes, at a sitting. In habitual smokers, the practice when employed moderately, provokes thirst, increases the secretion of saliva and buccal mucus, and produces a remarkable soothing and tranquilizing effect on the mind, which has made it so much admired and adopted by all classes of society, and by all nations civilized and barbarous.—The practice of chewing tobacco is principally confined to sailors, and is less frequently submitted to our observation, so that we are not so competent to speak of its effects, which probably are similar to those caused by smoking.—The application of tobacco to abraded surfaces is a very dangerous practice, and has, in some instances, been attended with violent or even fatal results. Mr. Weston has related a case in which the express juice of tobacco was applied to the head of a boy, aged eight years, for the cure of *tinea capitis*. Death took place three hours and a half after the application.

• EXERCISE FOR THE EYES.

BY DR. W. A. ALCOTT.*

It has been very generally supposed, that in order to strengthen the eye, above all if debilitated or diseased, it must be little used. From this mistaken view have arisen a thousand errors. To it in no small degree, we owe the mighty deluge of spectacles of all sorts, of which we have already loudly complained; together with a host of mechanical contrivances for favoring weak eyes, or improving those already strong. To it, moreover, we owe, in no small degree, much of that *superficiality* in learning which is so common among us now-a-days.—Many a student seems to regard spectacles as a sort of substitute for thought and solid learning.

Now we are of the number of those who believe that if no person in the world were to use any sort of spectacles or glasses for a thousands years to come; the eyesight of the race then on earth would be far better than it is likely to be, as things are now going on. This is not saying that spectacle may not, in some instances, be advantageously applied, but only that the extreme to which we have alluded, would be far more tolerable than that which now exist.—Nine in ten, perhaps ninety-nine in a hundred, who use glasses, are injured by them in the end, most unquestionably.

The grand point after all, in the work of improving the eye—just as it is in the work of improving any other organ—is to give it a proper amount of healthful exercise. In one word it must be used.

Exercise of the eye, to be useful, must be varied. We must not read always, nor always refrain from reading. We must not always

read the coarsest print; nor must we go to the other and worse extreme, that of always using small print. We must not use a strong light always; nor must we resolve not to use a strong light at all. We must not read too much by artificial lights; nor need we refuse to use a lamp or a candle in any circumstances. We should not read much when the mind or the body is in a state of considerable fatigue; nor need we go to the other extreme, of never reading at all in such circumstances.

The course which science, experience and observation would seem to point out, is the following. Keep the eyes cool. Use them much, generally in a full strong light, and in the open air; but at any rate use them. Accustom them, on occasions, to almost every degree of light, every kind of artificial arrangement: taking care, however, especially in reading small or bad type, and in using a light badly constructed or in a bad position, not to go so far as to induce fatigue. We believe that with these latter cautions, the eye will always improve by use; and that, on the contrary, the more it is favored and indulged—babied as it were—the worst will be its condition. We believe that thousands *tend* or *baby* their eyes into chronic or deep-seated disease, when constant and varied exercise, and a due attention to light, air, and water would have rendered them as strong as our own. We have no more use for spectacles now than we had at twenty years of age; nor do we mean to use any for twenty years to come. And yet we read with impunity—for a little while at once—in all sorts of light; and have done so for about fifteen years. And yet according to common appearances no man had a worse prospect before him, so far as eye-sight merely is concerned, fifteen or twenty years ago, than ourselves. And though we would not lay too much stress on the experience of one individual, we must be permitted to believe that it is worth something.

As in the work of reform and improvement every where, so in this particular department, whatsoever, the “hand findeth to do,” should be done immediately. There is little hope for him who will not begin now to do that which he knows to be his duty. He that “doeth truth” as soon as he knows what truth is, “cometh to the light;” while he that “doeth evil,” and persists in it, voluntarily, “neither cometh to the light,” nor enjoys the full benefit of the light he already possesses.

Important truths, like important knowledge, and like our locomotive organs, are given us to use; and if not used, they soon either dwindle away or perish. Nor is this all. We are accountable for them; not only for the lost truth, knowledge, and bodily organs themselves, but

for the uses to which, respectively, they might have been applied.

THE INDICATIONS OF LONGEVITY.

Hufeland, in his celebrated work on the means of preserving health, presents the following *beau ideal* of a frame destined to longevity.

Let me now be permitted to delineate the portrait of an individual destined to long life. He has a well proportioned stature, without, however, being too tall; but rather of the middle size, and tolerably thick set. His complexion is not too florid; too much ruddiness, at least in youth, is seldom a sign of longevity. His hair approaches more to the fair than to the black; his skin is strong but not coarse. His head is not too large—he has prominent veins on the limbs, and his shoulders are rather round than flat. His neck is neither very long nor short—his stomach does not project; and his hands are large but not too deeply cleft. His foot is rather thick than long, and inferior limbs are firm and round. He has a broad arched chest a strong voice, and the faculty of retaining his breath for a considerable time without inconvenience or difficulty. In general, there is a complete harmony of proportion among all parts of the body. His senses are good, but not too delicate—his pulse is slow and regular.

His stomach is excellent—his appetite good, and digestion easy. The joys of the table, in moderation, are to him of importance—they increase the vigor of his system, and tune his mind to serenity, while his soul partakes in the pleasure which they communicate.—He does not, however, eat merely for the sake of eating—but each meal is an hour of daily festivity—a kind of delight, attended with this advantage, among others, that it rather increases than diminishes his riches. He eats slowly, and has not too much thirst. All insatiable thirst is always a sign of rapid self consumption.

In general, he is serene, loquacious, active, susceptible of joy, love, and hope,—but insensible of the impressions of hatred, anger and avarice. His passions never become too violent. He is fond of employment, particularly calm meditation and agreeable speculations—is an optimist, a friend to nature and domestic felicity—has no unbounded thirst after the honors or riches of the world—and banishes all unnecessary thought of to-morrow.—[Journal of Health.

A furious wife, like a musket, may do a great deal of execution in her house; but then she makes a great noise in it at the same time. A mild wife will, like an air gun, act with as much power without being heard.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, JULY 1, 1841.

☞ The New York State Thomsonian Medical Society met in Convention at Albany on the 8th ult. the proceedings of which will be found below. Believing that the doings of this society will be read with pleasure by our readers, is the only apology we offer for occupying so large a portion of our paper with it.

• Much has been said heretofore, respecting the validity of Dr. Thomson's *Patent*—some having denied that it was good for anything; but by the proceedings of the Convention, it will be seen that a committee was appointed to examine said Patent, and that after attending to the duty assigned them, they declared it to be "*legally valid and in full force.*"

We hope now, that those who have been so anxious to deprive Dr. Thomson of his *rights*—asserting at the same time that he had none, will see their error and feel willing to acknowledge it.

The *New Book* was also examined and gave great satisfaction. It will soon be completed, and those who have so long waited for it will have the satisfaction of seeing it.

Doct. THOMSON the, founder of the system was present by invitation, being in Albany at the time, on business relating to his book which is now in course of publication there. At the close of the Convention Dr. T. partook of a dinner with the Society, given as a token of respect, due to every benefactor of the human race. The weather was fine, and a large number of delegates were present, and the business was transacted with apparently good feelings and much benefit to those assembled. A proposition was made, and a subscription got up, for the purpose of obtaining Dr. Thomson's portrait, painted at full length, for the Society. Something like \$50 was subscribed on the spot; and all who feel disposed to contribute towards defraying the expenses of said portrait,

are requested to forward the money to Dr. John Thomson, of Albany, or to Dr. Thos. Lapham, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y. The amount received will be credited from time to time in the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian. The expense of painting the portrait will probably be about three hundred dollars.

The Thomsonians of New York, are advancing the good work of medical reform, with a rapidity that is highly creditable to themselves and honorable to the cause. And although the laws of their State are against them they are nothing daunted in their determination to have the cause progress; like their great prototype, they are not to be put down by any other than fair means, and knowing that theirs is the just cause, they are confident of success. Societies can accomplish what individuals may in vain strive to effect; and by thus uniting, and *being* united, Thomsonians may effect a great work in a short time. Societies should be formed in every town, and have their meetings; form acquaintances with Thomsonians of other towns, and in thus increasing their strength and consulting each other, they may soon be able, not only to demand their rights and receive them, but also the respect of their opponents.

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the New York State Thomsonian Medical Society.

FIRST DAY.—This Society convened in the Capitol at Albany; on the 8th ult., agreeably to the adjournment of last year, and closed its session on the evening of the 9th.

At the opening of the session, Dr. Stanton of Albany was called to the Chair.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and the roll called, Drs. Frisbie, Gates, and P. Lapham were chosen a committee of nomination for officers for the ensuing year.

It was *unanimously resolved*, That it is with unfeigned pleasure we witness the presence of Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, the founder of our system of medical practice, in our body; and that we now extend to him our cordial welcome, and invite him to a seat and participation in our proceedings.

The 11th Article of the Constitution was stricken out, and the Constitution amended by the insertion of the following: "The officers of this Society shall hold their offices for the term of one year, or until other officers are chosen."

The committee on nominations reported. Their report was accepted, and the following persons were chosen by ballot officers of the Society for the year ensuing:

Doctors John Thomson, President; Abiel Gardner, Vice President; Thos. Lapham, Cor. Sec'y; Mr. Geo. L. Le Row, Rec. Sec'y; Doctors E. J. Mattocks, Treasurer; C. Thomson, P. Lapham, J. Gates, A. Clark, I. K. Averill, Censors.

On motion of Dr. O. Cook, a committee consisting of Drs. Thos. Lapham, Frisbie and Burton were appointed to wait on Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, to present to him the resolution just adopt-

ed, and to confer with him and ascertain whether he has any communication to make to the Society.

Drs. Averill, Hermance, Cook, Stanton and Alley were appointed a committee to bring business before the Society.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.—Met as adjourned. The committee of conference with Dr. Samuel Thomson, Reported as follows:

That they have attended to the duty assigned them; that Doctor Thomson has been pleased to signify to your committee that it is his desire that this Society should appoint a committee to examine his book now in progress of publication, and report their views to the Society. Also, that it is his desire that the same committee should inquire into the state of his patent right, and report to this Society the facts about the validity of the same.

The report was accepted, and Drs. T. Lapham, Burton, Averill and Gates were appointed a committee to perform the business desired by the Doctor.

Drs. Cook, Alley and Fowler were appointed a committee to extend to Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON an invitation to partake of a complimentary dinner with the members of the New York State Thomsonian Medical Society.

Drs. J. Thomson, Burton and Stanton were appointed a committee of arrangements for the occasion.

While the committees were absent on duty, Dr. Justin Gates of Rochester, by request, gave a very interesting, spirited and eloquent address to the meeting.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

SECOND DAY.—June 9th, 1841.—The Society met as adjourned.

Dr. A. N. Burton read an interesting paper on Typhus Fever; Dr. Justin Gates on Dyspepsia; and Dr. P. Lapham on Rheumatism; for which the thanks of the Society were presented, and the papers ordered to be printed. Dr. O. Cook was excused on account of indisposition.

The Censors reported the following candidates for Diplomas, as having passed a satisfactory examination; and recommended them for that honor: John Hills, James C. Gribbon, Jason Goodrich, Hoyt Hunsiker, Fenner K. Robertson, Andrew W. Russell, Sylvester J. Leonard, Robert Shaw, G. L. Le Row—and the Diplomas were accordingly conferred.

Dr. Gray being called upon, delivered a short extempore address, after which the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to Dr. Gray for his entertaining and animated address.

Drs. Ross and Wilcox, from Vermont, having come in, were invited to sit with us as honorary members.

Dr. Thomas Lapham presented the report on Dr. S. Thomson's book and patent right, which was accepted:

The committee appointed to examine Dr. Sam'l Thomson's patent right, and the new book now in progress of publication, beg leave to report:

That they have attended to the duty assigned

them. They have examined said patent bearing date May 6th, 1836, together with a certificate from Henry L. Ellsworth, commissioner of the patent office, dated March 26th, 1841, showing that Dr. Thomson's patent was duly recorded in that office at the time specified; and your committee are satisfied beyond a doubt that said patent is legally valid and in full force.

Your committee have also examined the specifications of the compounds accompanying the patent, and believe them to be both new and useful, being a valuable acquisition to Thomsonian practitioners as well as Right holders.

Your committee have also given the new book a cursory examination, and believe that the work when completed, (and when taken in connection with the present Guide to Health,) will be a valuable production, superior to any other medical book within our knowledge. That portion of the work which is already printed, embracing a synoptical view of the principles on which the Thomsonian practice is based, together with the science of Botany and Anatomy, accompanied with numerous plates delineating the structure of the various organs of the human body, together with colored engravings representing many medicinal plants used in our practice, we believe to be well executed. And that portion of the work yet in manuscript, which is intended to embrace the practice of medicine, has not been so fully examined by your committee, and of course their opinion of its merits cannot be relied upon with any degree of certainty. We have read a portion of the recipes, and believe them to be useful appendages to the Thomsonian Materia Medica.

THOS. LAPHAM, I. K. AVERILL,
A. N. BURTON, JUSTIN GATES.

Resolved, That Dr. C. F. Gray be requested to deliver a complimentary address to Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, at the dinner table.

The following gentlemen were appointed to prepare essays on diseases, to be read at our next annual meeting:

Dr. V. N. Van Vleck, on Indigestion.

Dr. W. B. Stanton, on Gout.

Dr. L. Hermance, on Intermittent Fever.

Resolved, That when we adjourn, we adjourn to meet in this place on the second Tuesday of June, 1842.

One half of the first day of each annual meeting was appropriated to familiar conversation on diseases.

Dr. Burton was chosen to attend to the business of the Society with the legislature, and his expenses to be paid out of the contingent fund.

During the session, 4000 petitions to the legislature were printed and circulated among the members.

A committee was chosen to procure a full length portrait of Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, for the benefit of the State Society; and each member was made a committee to procure subscriptions for the performance of the will of the Society.

Resolutions adopted.—Resolved, That we tender our cordial thanks to our friends in the last legislature of this State, Hon. E. D. Culver, Enoch Strong, and all those able champions of equal rights who so successfully defended our cause;

and that they be furnished with a copy of this resolution.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Society be tendered to Dr. A. N. Burton, for his perseverance and untiring exertions in endeavoring to procure the passage of a law protecting Thomsonian practitioners, by the last legislature.

Resolved, That we will continue to petition the legislature of this State for a law to enable Thomsonian practitioners to recover pay for their services, *until such a law shall grace our statute books.*

Resolved, That we will use our influence, irrespective of party politics, to secure the election of such members to our legislature as will sustain our just rights in the legislature of this State.

Resolved, That a committee consisting of Drs. T. Lapham, J. Gates and A. N. Burton, be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a Thomsonian College of Physicians, for the purpose of disseminating true medical knowledge among our practitioners; likewise the propriety of petitioning the legislature for a charter for said College, granting power to confer degrees; and that they be instructed to report at length at the next annual meeting.

Resolved, That this Society invite the Thomsonians of our sister States in New England and Pennsylvania to co-operate with us in the establishment of a medical college.

Resolved, That we as a Society will use our influence to advance the cause of temperance in all things.

COMMITTEES THAT STAND OVRR.

On the College and Charter.—Thos. Lapham, J. Gates, A. N. Burton.

On Petitions to the Legislature.—Dr. A. N. Burton.

On the Portrait of Dr. S. Thomson.—J. Thomson, E. J. Mattocks and W. B. Stanton.

THE DINNER.

Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, the founder of our system of medical practice, having accepted of our invitation to a public dinner complimentary to himself, the necessary arrangements were made, and at the adjournment of the Society a procession of Thomsonians escorted him from the Capitol to the Hotel, where a splendid banquet was ready for our participation. It was a substantial dinner, and satisfied and gratified us all. After the cloth was removed the glasses were brought on, which were filled high with bumpers of fine sparkling wine, direct from Nature's vineyard, the clear spring with which we washed down the patriotic and complimentary toasts—a part of which only we are able to give. Previous, however, to the toasts, Dr. Gray of Poughkeepsie gave an animated and cheering address to the entire board in general and to Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON in particular, which was responded to by the Doctor, and cheered by all. We remained together until the lateness of the day called our members to separate for their homes, whither they have gone, we believe, with renewed faith in the ultimate success of our practice, and more than ever mutually satisfied with each other.

REGULAR TOASTS.

Our guest, Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, the founder of the Thomsonian system—Glory enough for one man.

The system we advocate—Truth and Reason its foundation; what can overthrow it?

The Thomsonian Fraternity—May they ever remain like the bundle of sticks in the fable, bound together that they cannot be broken.

The Legislature of this State—It will accord us justice when the people demand it.

The natural system of Dr. Thomson and the poisoning system of the Regulars—Tilting on ends of the same plank, Public Opinion the pivot; who dreads the ultimate result?

The New York State Thomsonian Medical Society—The first Institution of the kind; may it always be first and foremost.

Philosophy, Nature, Science and Common Sense—The components of the Thomsonian system.

VOLUNTEER TOASTS.

By John Thomson. The N. York State Thomsonian Medical Society—With a band of such advocates we know that we can and will march into the capital of the enemy, and plant our standard on its bulwarks.

By Justin Gates. Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON, the modern Hypocrates—His system of medicine is destined to restore ancient purity to the practice.

By A. Gardner. The Thomsonian system—It will flourish and grow until the earth shall acknowledge its virtues.

By S. W. Frisbie. The Thomsonian system—A beautiful arch, uniting the two immutable pillars of TRUTH and REASON, is as surely destined to be a triumphal arch over the fallen system of poisoning, &c., as the sun is to shine in the firmament.

By C. S. Totman. Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON—Though lightly read in the books of the schools, yet deeply read in the great book of nature.

By L. Hermance. The Thomsonian Medical Society—Powerfully *relaxing*, terribly *depleting*, and greatly *irritating* to the "regular faculty."

By E. J. Mattocks. Dr. THOMSON—May he live to see the laws which condemn his system, wiped out from the statute books of every State in the Union.

By J. Wicks. WASHINGTON and THOMSON—One the defender of our rights and liberties, the other the defender of our health and life.

By C. F. Gray. Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON—Let us remove those foul planets which have so long held the reigns of Medical Government, and place in their stead the brilliant STAR OF NEW-ENGLAND.

A great many other toasts were drank, but owing to some causes they were not put in our possession, or were misplaced when they were.

JOHN THOMSON, President.

GEO. L. LE ROW, Recording Secretary.

A state prisoner at Smyrna, sentenced to die of hunger in prison, was found alive twenty eight days after his incarceration. This unfortunate man (whose sentence had been commuted) confessed that he had prolonged his existence by a box of wafers, which also contained a small piece of gum elastic and a morsel of sealing wax. When these were exhausted he began to eat the miserable paste-board box which had contained them.

☞ The following letter from a correspondent shows plainly how doctor-ridden some people are. Here is a jury who are called to sit and give judgment on a case, where it is evident that the doctor was the means of destroying the arm of a child, and yet they have the hardihood—the *mean-ness*, to award to him pay for so doing! They ought, every man of them, to be placed in the same condition themselves, as the poor boy spoken of. But we wonder that those who had the care of the child had not gumption enough to see the injury about to result from the stoppage of circulation; and although the doctor is most blameable, yet we think the parents did not do their whole duty. How long, we may ask, before parents will learn to place no more dependence in doctors than they should? Learn to be your own doctor—then you will have none to abuse you.

Patterson, (N.J.), May 31, 1841.

MR. MANUAL.—We are but little acquainted with you in this part of the country, and as a general thing the people are as little acquainted with the excellent cause which you advocate. Please direct your steps this way, and we will see what we can do for you. The cause is in its infancy in this section of country, but its friends have laid the axe at the root of the tree, and the old poisoning, depletive system begins to totter at its base. The work goes bravely on; and we feel the assurance the time is not far distant when calomel, with all its concomitants, will be known only among the things that were.

That you may judge of the amount of prejudice which exists against our system, and the little prospect the *scientific* or Thomsonian physician has, *legally*, I will mention a case which came on at a late county court in an adjoining county. A young lad had the misfortune to break his arm: a *regular* was called, of course; he went to work, and the arm was set, as in such cases made and provided, according to the most scientific plan; but after the lapse of a few days it was discovered there was no circulation in the broken limb. The story is soon told. The limb was bandaged so tight that the vital fluid could not pass either to or from the wound, or beyond it, and as an inevitable consequence, mortification ensued. The doctors decided, of course, that nothing short of amputation would save his life, and it was accordingly done. The father of the lad feeling, and very properly, that it was all the result of *ignorance*, refused to pay the bill, which was \$30. The doctor sued for the amount, and the father sued the doctor for \$100, thinking that was but poor remuneration to his son for the loss of his limb, not having

the least doubt but what he should recover it—but lo, and behold, when it came to trial, notwithstanding it was proven conclusively that it was the result of ignorance and carelessness on the part of the doctor, the jury brought in a verdict for the prisoner, with costs! Let the people draw their own inferences, and that they are doing fast. You shall hear from me again soon.

Respectfully yours, L. H. B.

EXPERIENCE IN THOMSONISM.

The greater our experience in the use of Thomsonian remedies, the more are we led to appreciate their benign worth. The oftener we are called upon to test their effects in different forms of disease, the more are we convinced of their general and universal efficiency. The more we see and hear of *regular* and *ir-regular* practice among the old school doctors, the more we lament that stubborn prejudice which binds men of great talent, education, and influence in society, to a practice which is emphatically a scourge to the human race. As from day to day we hear of some unfortunate fellow creature writhing under the pains of disease which all the skill and boasted science of our most eminent physicians cannot even alleviate, and feeling morally certain that in many instances of this kind the most simple of the Thomsonian medicines would give immediate relief, we cannot but seriously lament the day that *medical science* outstripped the laws of nature, and set at defiance common sense. What a world of misery has been caused in the endeavor to convert *deadly poisons* into *useful medicines*! And physicians claim to have performed this wonderful change. But on what grounds do they rest their claim?—Why, wholly upon the miserable foundation that they can administer these deadly drugs without *always* producing dissolution! Can they with any degree of truth claim more than this in support of such transformation? Let their own medical authors—let their own practice—let their own *consciences* answer. Do not their most eminent writers inform them of numerous instances in which the ravages of their mis-called *medicines* prove even more horrible than any form of disease to which mankind is subject? Does not their own every day practice and experience bring them to the same unsatisfactory conclusion? And do they not, oftentimes, as they see a patient rapidly approaching the grave under their treatment, exclaim within themselves, “Conscience! conscience! almost thou persuadest me to be a Thomsonian”?

We believe there are honest men among the regular physicians; or at least that they have honest *moments*; and knowing, as they do, of the numerous

instances in which the Thomsonian practice has rescued patients from the yawning grave, after *their* remedies had proved totally inefficient, we are at a loss to account for the tenacity with which they still adhere to their health-destroying *science*. We envy not their feelings at such times as they may be called upon to justify, even to themselves, the course of their professional career.

Our readers probably recollect that some time since we published an article of Dr. John Thomson's respecting "Red Raspberry," and that the Boston *True* Thomsonian ridiculed some of the remarks made respecting the application of the shrub in case of midwifery. We thought at the time that the critic was a little too fast, but not being acquainted with anatomy, could not contradict what he said—but as we saw the Dr.'s. article copied into all our exchanges, our mind was made up, that if it had contained the errors and ignorance that the Thomsonian pretended, that such men as Dr. Curtis of Columbus O. and Dr. Lapham of Poughkeepsie N. Y. were as capable of detecting them as our neighbor and would not have copied the article. Dr. Thomson replied at the time, but as we considered it of no use to contend when we already had experienced men as its endorsers, the matter was then dropped. While in Albany a few days since, a number of the New York State Thomsonian Medical Society, spoke to us of the "Red Raspberry" article, and told us that Dr. Thomson was correct. And to satisfy ourselves, we went to the Anatomical Museum, and by reference to the human frame was convinced they were right. So much for "*Ignorance exposed*," as the Thomsonian would have it.

GOOD DOCTRINE.—Thomas Jefferson, after he had retired from the Presidency, remarked that the habit of using ardent spirits by men in public offices, had occasioned more trouble and more injury to the public service than any other circumstance during his administration. "And were I to commence again," said Mr. Jefferson, "the first question I would ask, with regard to every candidate for office, should be, *Is he addicted to the use of ardent spirits?*"

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The article from P. H. H. shall be inserted in our next. We have never received the communications of Mr. S. S. Thomas, of Virginia, but feel obliged to him for his efforts in favor of the cause. Several other communications on hand, will appear soon.

A printed circular was handed us a few days since, of which the following, which is the principal part of it, seems to be Mr Hale's apology to the public, for opening in this city an establishment in opposition to Dr. Thomson:—

"Whereas, a general dissatisfaction has been expressed in consequence of the adulteration of the Medicines used in the Thomsonian system; and whereas, Practitioners and Families have manifested a strong desire for the establishment of a General Depot for the sale of *pure and unadulterated* medicines, to be conducted in a manner that would give the public implicit confidence in their purity, at the earnest solicitation of some of the oldest and ablest Thomsonian Practitioners in the Union, the undersigned, has, at great expense, established the New England Thomsonian Depot, and General Head Quarters," &c.; &c.

The above is, in our humble opinion, a poor apology for sitting up in business: and besides, we believe it to be false from beginning to end. If Mr. Hale feels that he is pursuing an honorable part in establishing himself under Dr. Thomson's name, why does he offer any excuse for so doing? Why not leave the public to infer, that because he thought it a lucrative business and wishing to *make money*, he commenced in the trade? This the community do think to be his reason, and will continue to think so, be his apologies ever so many or plausible. To delude people into the belief that good medicines could not be had of Dr. Thomson, and to get their custom, is evidently his reason for publishing his circular.

As to people's complaining of the medicines made and sold by Dr. Thomson, it is all *white-wash*, and so thinly put on that it is easily seen through: there were no complaints heard of till the New England Thomsonian Depot was opened, and from whom do they come then? from the organ of that Depot, and mostly by men who considered their own bond not worth the observing! Are such men as these to be brought against Dr. Samuel Thomson? No—their evidence is not sufficient. As for benefitting the public, we do not believe that to have been Mr. Hale's intention when he opened his shop;—it was that he might *put money in his purse*, and that only: and knowing that his medicines would not sell by his own name as well as if they had some eminent person's to them, he took the best one now in existence—that of Dr. THOMSON, and comes out in the willy, deceptive manner we see above.

To show that Dr. Thomson's medicines are still preferred to those manufactured by any other man, we annex extracts from a letter written by a gentleman living in the state of Virginia, who, as appears by his letter has given both a fair trial, and found, as everybody does, that the medicines manufactured and sold by Dr. Thomson are the only medicines to

be relied on. These medicines which Mr Hale pronounces as so very *bad* and worthless, contain more virtue than any other man's *good* medicines possess. If Dr Thomson's medicines are so bad what horrid stuff Mr Hale's must be.

"Sir.—I now believe and *know*, what I have long judged—that there are spurious medicines bearing your name abroad in the land. I have made trial of yours. I find as much difference between them and articles of the same name, purchased of others, as there is between sun-light and moon-shine. Diseases, which had so long sustained themselves against medicines of my *old stock*, that I had almost renounced your whole system of practice as an *imposition*, I find now yielding, almost without a struggle, to those I lately received from you. Indeed, so plainly have I and my neighbors seen the *superiority* of yours, that I intend very soon to have a general conflagration of my old stock; and shall consider the act of my ordering some of yours, as one of the most fortunate events of my life; both as it enhances the prospects of my success as a practitioner, and of the furtherance of the truth, in my county. No Thomsonian medicines shall hereafter come on my premises, or even in my state, if I can prevent it, (and I shall try,) that were not prepared by you or your *duly appointed agents*.

"Having ascertained the great difference between the counterfeit and genuine, I should be pleased to have a variety of the latter, particularly the following:—Golden Seal; Ground Ginger; Headache Snuff; Brown Lobelia; Myrrh; Poplar Bark; Raspberry Leaves; Vegetable Bitters; Slippery Elm Bark (pulv.); Volatile Salts; Cough Syrup; Eye Water; Meadow Fern Ointment; Nerve Ointment; Third Preparation, &c.

Yours with much respect,

A. S. THOMAS.

Gravel Hill, Va., April 14, 1841."

As another instance of the superiority of Dr. Thomson's *bad genuine*, over *good counterfeit* medicines we would relate the following fact:—

A lady from Philadelphia, came to the Thomsonian Infirmary a few weeks since, suffering severely with cancer in the breast. She stated that she had been under *Thomsonian* treatment for about two years, and that during the two weeks that she was under treatment here, she had received more benefit than from the whole of doctoring previous. She expressed herself thus—"I have tried Thomsonian medicines for a long time, and the treatment I have received was much like what I have received here, but have never derived so much benefit in the long while, as in the short time I have been here—and I think that there is a virtue in the medicines made by the old gentleman which is not possessed by those made by other men, let them try their best." This lady returned home and took medicines with her, to doctor with; being convinced they were better than any she could obtain elsewhere. We wish our readers to remember this fact; it is but

one of many we are possessed of, and we presume other people could testify in the same respect were they so disposed—even some who have used Mr. Hale's medicines.

Having derived great benefit from the use of Dr. Thomson's compounds, we feel it our duty to speak in his favor, and when we see a man trying to delude the public, for no other reason as we conceive, than that he may "put money in his pocket," we feel doubly called upon to vindicate what we *know* to be valuable. To Mr. Hale we are a stranger, and if we know ourself, we hold no malice towards either him nor any one connected with him, but believing he is doing an injury to community as well as the founder of Thomsonism, we cannot refrain from noticing him. If he had established himself under his own name and without a libel on the man whom a large class of community delight to honor, then we should have considered his a just enterprise, but in his present position, we look upon him far differently.

DR. STILLMAN.—The Richmond (Va.) Star calls this distinguished man, now doing a heavy quack medicine business in New Orleans, one of the noisiest humbuggers in the land. The doctor used formerly to gull the Gothamites, and though, sooth to say, scarcely far enough removed from a fool to be an adroit knave, managed to make a handsome living out of them. His pharmacopœia was very limited, and some of his compounds were truly original, though withal very simple in their composition. For instance, he used to make "Swain's Panacea" and "Oldridge's Balm of Columbia," both out of the same materials—molasses and water, and both in the same vessel—an old tin pan. We speak by the book having seen the process of manufacture.—[N. Y. Commercial Gazette.]

POISONING BY PHEASANTS.—A subscriber informs the Philadelphia Ledger that the whole of his family were taken sick a short time since, after eating a dinner of pheasants. The cause assigned is, that the pheasants, at this season of the year feed upon a poisonous berry, and become at such times, improper food.

RHUBARB.—The Rhubarb plant is a native of Turkey in Asia, where it rises to the height of six or eight feet; the part used in medicine is the root, which is chiefly brought from Turkey in roundish pieces of a lively yellow color, variegated with streaks of bright red; the leaf-stalks make pleasant tarts.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.
 Acton, Robert Chaffin
 Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
 Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
 Ashby, F A Kendall
 Andover, John Harding
 Ashby, Thomas Gibson
 Colerain, O J Martin, C W Shattuck, & R Dewey
 Chesterfield, Amos Bisby, and V. Nichols
 Danvers, Amos Trask
 " Joseph Shaw Jr
 " South Parish, James Worcester
 Essex, Eli F Burnham
 Eastham, Scotter Cobb
 Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
 " M. O. Bradford
 " Isaac Wood, Jr.
 Fitchburg, John Gibbs
 Gardner, S C Phiuney
 Gloucester, Samuel Friend, Gideon Lane
 and Geo Saville
 Harvard, J. Hosmer, and P. F. Osgood
 Leveret, Myron Ashley
 Lowell, Aaron P. Holt.
 Lynn, Perkins H. Dow, and Theophilus N Breed
 Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney
 Milford, S Sumner
 Munson, Cyrus Day
 Munroe, Maturin Ballou
 North Danvers, E. B. Putnam.
 North Bridgewater, Nahum J Smith
 North Reading, Eben'r Eaton
 " Thomas Abbot
 North Andover, L. T. Presson
 New Bedford, Prince Weeks, and G. Nye
 Newburyport, G W Goodwin, and J Blood
 Orleans, Vickery Sparrow
 Plymouth, Samuel Barnes, and E. Macomber
 Reading, N K J Vinal
 South Andover, Jacob Jenkins
 Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
 Shelburne Falls, E. A. Rankin
 Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
 Salem, R W Merrill
 " David E. Sauders
 Springfield, Sirguy Noble
 Sturbridge, D Mason, and Wm H Rice
 Stoughton, Luther Belcher
 Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh
 Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
 Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
 Walpole, Williard Lewis
 Waltham, J Shepley
 Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
 Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
 Camden, Thomas Annis
 East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolmon
 Eastport, John Shackford
 Frankfort, George Kimball
 Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
 Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher
 Machias, Wm. Smith
 Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster.

Norway, Jotham Goodnow
 Orrington, James A. Swett
 Portland, Dan'l Sawyer and Rev. C. D. Ffrench
 Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
 Thomaston, Horatio Alden
 Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, Bethuel Keith
 Exeter, S. J. Perkins
 Kingston, John Dearborn,
 Langdon, Royal Shumway
 Meredith, William M. Ladd
 Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
 New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
 New Hampton, James Jackson
 Nashua, Jesse Whitney
 Pembroke, Moses Martin
 Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
 Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
 Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Brookfield, Aaron Cleveland
 Bennington, George Boardman Jr
 Chelsea, Benj. Grout
 Chesterfield, Sally Paine
 Charlemont, David Todd
 Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
 Dover, Daniel Leonard and Washington Leonard
 East Randolph, P. Smith
 Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
 Halifax, S. Plumb, and Eben'r M. Clark
 " Alvah Brooks, and John Reid, Esq.
 Green River, Sam'l Cutting
 Guilford, Henry Packer, and Philip Martin
 Londonderry, J. Arnold
 Randolph, Jehiel Smith
 Readsboro', Leavitt Ballou
 Straton, Hiram Baldwin
 Woodstock, Nathan Cushing, and J. Holt
 Windham, Ezra T Butterfield
 Whitingham, W. Goodnow
 " Reuben Green, and Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason
 New Shoreham, (Block Island) Simeon Babcock
 Woonsocket, Parker A. Haven

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson
 New Haven, George Munson
 Norwich, O B Lyman

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, William Harden

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson
 New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Eleventh St., near 5th Avenue
 Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
 Troy, Ira Wood

NEW JERSEY.

Hightstown, Lawrence Taylor

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
 Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount, A. Willford

Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only places in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his **GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET**, near Cross st, and at **No. 7 1-2 WATER STREET**, near Washington street.

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [better than those which have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their better medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against a gang in Blackstone street calling themselves Thomsonians, with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmary at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman, whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheeps' clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The Infirmary and Store at No. 40 Salem st. are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.


Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

The following is a list of some of the medicines for sale at the above establishment, with their prices annexed:—

Cayenne,	\$1.00	per lb.	12½	cts.	per oz.
Composition Powder,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Conserve Hollyhock,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
" " Pills,	1.25	"	12½	"	"
Coffee, or coarse Bayb.	.50	"	12½	"	"
Cancer Plaster,			25	"	"
Golden Seal,	1.50	"	12½	"	"
Ginger, ground,	0.25				
Headache Snuff,	1.25	"	12½	"	"
Healing Salve,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Lobelia, green	2.00	"	25	"	"
Lobelia Seed, pulv.	3.00	"	25	"	"
Murrh Gum,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Nerve Powder,	2.50	"	20	"	"
Poplar Bark,	0.50	"	12½	"	"
Raspberry Leaves,	0.50	"	12½	"	"
Spiced Bitters,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Strengthening Plaster,	1.00	"	20	"	"
Slippery Elm Bark,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
" " pulv	1 05	"	12½	"	"
Unicorn Root,	2.50	"	25	"	"
Woman's Friend,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Volatile Salts,	1.50	"	25	"	per bot
Cough Syrup,	\$1.00	per bottle.			

Nerve Ointment,	3.00	per bot.	25	"	"
No. 5 Syrup,	1.00	"			
Eye Water,			25	"	"
Meadow Fern Ointment,			25	"	"
Pepper Sauce,	0.42	"			
Rheumatic Drops,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Tincture Lobelia,	1.00	"	12½	"	"
Third Preparation,	2.00	"	25	"	"
Vegetable Jelly,	1.00	"			
Wine Bitters,	0.75	"			

Dr. THOMSON will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be *post paid* or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

WANTED,

BLACK CHERRY, BLACK BIRCH AND POP-LAR BARK.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, requests people in whose vicinity Poplar, Black Cherry, and Black Birch Bark grows, to gather a quantity of the bark of each of the above trees. Also the bitter herb Balmony,—and those who can to procure the oil of Pennyroyal, for which a fair price will be paid on delivery at No. 40 Salem street.

Boston, June 1, 1841.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, JULY 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 17.]

THE WINE CUP.

Shun, shun ye the wine cup,
For madness is there;
'Tis the ruin of all things
That's gladsome and fair;
'Tis the blight of affection,
The downfall of fame,
And no hope can survive
The breath of its shame.

O, shun it when glad ones
In revel are high—
When the song and the jest
Are bright'ning each eye—
When the tempter is waiting
To blast with his smile—
Then heed not his seeming:
'Tis falsehood and guile.

And quaff not the goblet
To ancient ones now—
'T will tarnish the laurels
That wreath round their brow;
Far better in silence
Their names should remain
Than their mem'ries should bear
On their impress that stain

And banish the wine cup
When woman is near—
'Tis the siroc that strips them
Of all they hold dear—
'Tis the monster that hastens
Their friends to their doom,
And sings in his triumph
His songs on their tomb.

Then haste to the rescue—
The banner is seen:
'Tis as bright as the halo
Of night's beaming queen,
On, on to the battle,
Bold-hearted and brave;
And this is the watchword:
We conquer to save.

BALM OF GILEAD.—The tree that yields the famous “balm of Gilead,” is called the *Amyris*, of which there are several species, all fragrant and balsamic. The tree is said to be scarcely more than a shrub, bearing protuberant buds which are full of balsamic resin. This balsam is supposed to exceed all others, chiefly in its exquisite fragrance, rather than in its superior medical qualities. The tree which, in New England, bears the name of the Balm of Gilead, is a species of the poplar, (*populus candicans*) sometimes called the cotton tree.—[Salem Obs.]

VOL. VII.—No. XVII.

From Fonerden's Botanic Journal.

ON DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

BY W. H. FONERDEN, M. D.

Certain painful affections of the nerves are termed neuralgic; the appellation itself being descriptive of their nature.

Neuralgia is characterized by increased sensibility and lancinating pain along the course of a nerve, accompanied, usually, with the irregular action of the adjoining muscles. The paroxysms of pain are short, the intervals or remissions being indeterminate.

It is generally confined to the face, foot, or breast; though neuralgia of the ear has been noticed by Itard; of the intercostal nerve by Chaussier and Jadelot; of the spermatic nerve by Francis and Barras; and of the anterior crural nerve by Cotugno and Chaussier.

Neuralgia of the face may be known by the keen lancinating pain shooting from the mouth upwards to the eye, sometimes backward to the ear, and extending over the cheek, palate, teeth, and jaws. From the pain, which is very peculiar in its character, corresponding exactly in its course with that of the nerves, it is not difficult to determine the seat of the disease. The portio dura of the seventh pair of nerves seem to be most frequently affected; in which case the pain commences with great acuteness in the forepart of the cheek, near the mouth and nose, extends as high as the forehead, and spreads in the direction of the ears. When the superior maxillary nerve or the second branch of the fifth pair is affected, which is more frequently the seat of the disease than either the first or third branch, the excruciating pain is felt in the forehead, temple, and inner angle of the eye on the affected side, and even in the eye-ball itself; and there is an involuntary affusion of tears.

Facial neuralgia has been mistaken for rheumatism, hemicrania, and toothache; but it may be distinguished from all other kinds of pain by its invariably following the course of the facial nerves or their ramifications, its superficial character, the absence of swelling or inflammation, the extremely excruciating nature of the pang, and the shortness of its duration.

Neuralgia of the foot and breast differ from that of the face only in their seat, and hence require no further description.

This disease, if we may judge from its treat-

ment, has been but imperfectly understood.— Indeed, its pathology seems to have been altogether mistaken. Tonics, sedatives, and narcotics separately and conjointly, have been tried, with the same vacillation of success; and as I believe, for want of a proper conception of its nature.

Neuralgia appears to be a debility, generally supposed to be consequent on previous over excitement. Now as nervous influence or power is all derived from the brain and spinal marrow, it is evident that no over-excitement can take place, without increased action of these organs; and that since all the nerves alike communicate with the brain or spinal marrow, (in one or other of which they have their origin,) such increased action or generation of nervous influence would necessarily produce over-excitement in all; making the disease, a general and not a local one. Hence we are irresistibly led to the conclusion that the apparent over-excitement is nothing more or less than a simple accumulation of nervous influence in some particular portion of the system. This accumulation, moreover, must arise either from an obstruction to the free transmission of nervous influence existing in the nerve affected, by which the natural quantity is stopped; like the water of a stream by the construction of a dam in its channel; or, from the debility of some remote nerve, by which the relative surplus is thrown upon another, in which the disease is located. In the first case, the affection may be termed idopathic, and in the second, symptomatic; both requiring the application of the same general principles in the treatment.

The chief indications are to promote the equal diffusion of nervous influence, and restore the debilitated nerves to the regular performance of their healthy functions.

The former is to be attempted with such diffusive stimulants as act immediately upon the nervous system; and the latter with tonics.— The stomach being the great centre of sympathies, and the intestines affording us by their extensive cor-relations with other organs, a means of making an impression on remote portions of the nervous system, should at once be attended to.

From these considerations, therefore, it must be evident, that full courses of medicine are the only means on which the practitioner can rely with any reasonable hope of final success.— They should be repeated according to the urgency of the symptoms. In the intervals, the most powerful tonics, in conjunction with nervines and anti-spasmodics, should be employed; and injections, containing a considerable proportion of third preparation of lobelia, prescribed.

In the course of the preceding remarks I have had occasion frequently to advert to the action

of lobelia through the medium of the nervous system, and even to glance at the arguments by which this position is proved. The importance of the subject, in my opinion, is such as not only to warrant a recapitulation, but also an amplification of those arguments. You will therefore, I hope pardon me, for what may seem on a superficial view unnecessary prolixity, or unmeaning repetition.

I have urged the rapidity of its action as one of the evidences of its operation through the nerves. In this respect, it challenges competition. No other remedial agent, no matter what be its ultimate power in the removal of disease, produces such sudden effects on the various organs of the animal economy. In some instances, even the most remote parts of the human organism seem to be brought under its influence as if by the touch of some magical wand. As the rays of light seem to impinge upon the retina, almost at the very moment of their issuing from their source, so lobelia appears, under circumstances most favorable to the full development of its salutary powers, to fly, in an almost imperceptible moment of time through the whole system, and like the lurid lightning playing in a continued stream which apparently spends itself on some isolated point, yet scatters its influence on every atom of its victim, lobelia, while it seems limited, is nevertheless universal in its action.

The resemblance of its action to that of electricity and galvanism, would almost warrant a belief in the identity of the three. While Galvani provided, in his battery a mighty engine for the demolition of the air-built castles of Girtanner; and Franklin with his key unlocked the portals of the skies, and Prometheus-like, stole fire from Heaven: Thomson with his lobelia, as if by some supernatural agency breaks up the intrenchments of disease, and again enkindles the expiring spark of vitality. True, the exact nature of this influence, in a metaphysical point of view, is as yet unexplicable; but in a medical sense, it is not unknown.

Now as the nerves, so far as we learn from experiments are the proper conduits of the electric and galvanic fluids, it is a reasonable conclusion that lobelia, which resembles these so much in character, should also resemble them in the mode of its operation.

Lobelia under certain circumstances, the nature of which has not yet been sufficiently studied to be perfectly understood, produces a very peculiar sensation in the brain and along the course of the spinal cord, the origins of the nerves. This sensation is one which may be felt, but scarcely described. In many cases, too, lobelia temporarily affects the intellectual faculties as well as the physical powers; and while we

cannot but attribute the extreme relaxation following its employment to its influence on the nerves; neither can we suppose that the wild vagaries of the mind, are ascribable to any other action than that which it has on the brain. The most fanciful wanderings of intellect, the most irregular illusions of sense, and the most incoherent ravings are, for the time being, numbered among its effects. Impressions, sensations, and volition, which are dependant on the brain and nerves, are—sometimes one,—sometimes the other, and sometimes all—affected by the operation of lobelia, thereby proving that its action is through the medium of the nervous system.

Yet although its action seems thus undetermined, it will be found on closer observation, that its chief power is spent on the organ affected. I am aware that this looks like ascribing to it a discriminating power; still such is the fact, though I am unable to account for it on philosophical principles unless it be that while the nerves are the great source of life and health, they are also the primary seat of disease, and that lobelia, acting through them, must necessarily expend its principle force, where the greatest obstruction to the diffusion of its influence is located.

Its influence over the generation and diffusion of animal heat, is I, think, no mean proof of the position I have taken. Whatever be the generating process of animal heat—whether digestion, respiration, circulation, or nutrition—or whatever be the means of its transmission from its source to all parts of the organism, it must be evident that both are under the control of the nervous system; whether nervous energy be exalted by exciting, or diminished by depressing passions, or other causes, a corresponding augmentation or deficiency of physical temperature, is the consequence. The general increase of animal heat, therefore when it is diminished and its equal diffusion when its equilibrium has been destroyed, by lobelia, establish conclusively the action of this remedy through the nerves.

Lastly, the promotion of nutrition leaves the question beyond doubt. It is a well known physiological fact, that nutrition is most vigorous where the nervous supplies are most numerous, and vice versa. We have, hence, every reason to suppose, though perhaps the evidence may not be so plain and positive as in some other physiological phenomena, that the nerves constitute the medium of nutrition; and that whatever promotes nutrition, must do so by acting primarily upon the nervous system. If therefore, we consider the immediate influence of lobelia on the nutritive functions we can have no doubt of its operating through the medium of this—the nervous system. This influence is

manifested by the desire for food which almost invariably follows the operations of lobelia.

(To be continued.)

From the Native Physician.

ISSUES AND SETONS.

This practice has been instituted, in order to divert the diseased fluid from an affected part, to an artificial channel; thereby to relieve the system from the oppression and difficulty under which it laboured. The practice is quite common, especially in affections of the lungs. Yet it is impossible to suppose, that any permanent benefit can arise where the morbid matter producing this result, is continually generating and acquiring strength. It may in some instances prolong the life of the patient for a short time; but even that is doubtful, as the facilities granted for the disengagement of this morbid matter, might produce an increased tendency in the system to its generation. Their action is always unpleasant and disagreeable, and frequently produces considerable debility. In fact it is but another drain through which life must continue to ebb.

Would the present number furnish room to notice the distressing effects which have been produced on individuals by mercury, blood-letting, antimony, blistering, &c., I think I could not fail to produce such determination in the minds of my readers, as should hereafter cause them under any circumstances to reject it. I shall, however, take the liberty to refer to the case of General George Washington, a name dear to every American; and from the account given of his death, I gather the following statement:

Some time in the night of the 13th of December, he was attacked with the Croup, a bleeder was sent for, who took from him twelve or fourteen ounces of blood; next morning the physician arrived about eleven o'clock, when imagining danger in the case, he advised the calling of two consulting physicians. In the interval, however, he thought proper to employ, in spite of the twelve ounces that had already been expended, two copious bleedings. Now when we consider that these are called copious, and the other is not noticed as such, and all indifference with which a future most copious bleeding is afterwards mentioned, we may presume that each of these was twenty-five or twenty ounces at least. After this, two moderate doses of calomel were administered: we are likewise left in ignorance of how much a moderate dose of calomel consists; but if it is fair to presume it to be, in proportion to the bleeding, we may conclude that it was at least very considerable. Upon the arrival of the

first consulting physician, it was agreed, as there were no signs of accumulation in the bronchial vessels of the lungs, they should try another bleeding. Now this appears to be perfectly inexplicable. As there were, at present, no signs of accumulation in the bronchial vessels of the lungs, they were driven to another bleeding. Hence it will be seen, that this last bleeding was to produce an accumulation in the bronchial vessels of the lungs. There was great difficulty of breathing, great inflammation, but as there was yet no accumulation in the lungs, they were determined to produce that also; and as a likely means of inducing it, they had recourse to the most extravagant effusions of blood. This is not an unfair interpretation of the words, but it could not have been their real meaning—their real meaning it is impossible to discover. In addition to all their previous venesections thirty-two ounces are now drawn. In the next place, vapours of vinegar and water, are frequently inhaled. Two doses of calomel were already given, but this is not deemed sufficient, ten grains of calomel are added; nor is even this sufficient. Repeated doses of emetic tartar, amounting, in all, to five or six grains, are now administered. It is said, the powers of life, now seemed to yield to the force of the disorder. The patient lying in this feeble and nearly exhausted state, is to be still further tormented. Blisters were now applied to his extremities, together with cataplasms of bran and vinegar to his throat. It is observed, that speaking, which was painful from the beginning, now became scarcely practicable. When we reflect upon the extreme weakness to which the patient must by this time have been reduced, and that he had both a blister and cataplasm of bran and vinegar to his throat, can we wonder that speaking would be scarcely possible—respiration grew more and more contracted and imperfect, until after eleven o'clock on Saturday night, when he expired without a struggle. Think of a man being within the space of a little more than twelve hours, deprived of eighty or ninety ounces of blood; afterwards swallowing two moderate doses of calomel, which were accompanied with an injection; then ten grains of calomel, and five or six grains of emetic tartar, vapours of vinegar and water frequently inhaled; blisters applied to the extremities, a cataplasm of bran and vinegar applied to his throat, upon which a blister had already been fixed; is it surprising that when thus treated, the afflicted soldier after various ineffectual struggles for utterance, at length articulated a desire that he might be allowed to die without interruption. To have resisted the fatal operation of such herculean remedies, one would imagine, that this venerable old man ought, at least to have retained the vigor of his earliest youth.

DECEIVING CHILDREN.

Dr. B. was called to visit a sick boy, twelve years of age. As he entered the house, the mother took him aside and told him, she could not get her boy to take any medicine, except she deceived him.

"Well, then," said Dr. B., "I shall not give him any. He is old enough to be reasoned with."

He went to the boy, and after an examination, said to him, "My little man, you are very sick, and you must take some medicine. It will taste badly, and make you feel badly for a while; and then I expect it will make you feel better."

The doctor prepared the medicine, and the boy took it, like a man, without the least resistance and he would take from his mother any thing that the physician had prescribed; but he would take nothing else from her. She had so often deceived him, and told him "it was good," when she gave him medicines, that he would not trust to any thing she said. But he saw at once that Dr. B. was telling him the truth, and trusted him; he knew, when he took the bitter draught, just what to expect.

This simple incident contains instruction of deep and solemn importance, deserving the careful consideration of every parent. "Honesty," with children, as well as with others, and in all circumstances, "is the best policy."—[S. S. Visitor.]

A PATENT SERMON.

The following—by whom I know not, neither do I care—must serve as a text to my present discourse:

"Tobacco is an Indian weed,
And 'twas the devil who sowed the seed."

My indulgent and indulging hearers—of all the evil habits that have ever been plastered upon the breast of society, that of chewing, smoking, and snuffing tobacco is the filthiest, the most inveterate. It was the devil beyond all question, who first sowed the seed, and who is still the sole owner and proprietor of what is; or ever will be raised, of this soul contaminating vegetable. All the tobacco inspectors in the country are his principal agents appointed to see that the traffic is carried on to his own especial benefit—that every paper, package, parcel or cask is accompanied with a label, bearing the name of the proprietor in his own hand writing, for none is genuine unless signed "*Belzebub Clovenfoot No. 1; Salamander street, Infernal Regions.*" It is strange to me that man will consent to take the sub-agency of this disgusting narcotic, and deal it out to his brother man, when he knows that it is as fatal in its moral effects as a drop of turpentine when applied to the

back of a bed bug. I care not my friends, how healthy the fœtus of morality may be in the hearts fruitful womb, if tobacco be taken in sufficient doses, an abortion will certainly be produced, and barrenness ensue. O, you vile tobacco worms! I hardly know whether it is best to poke you about with a long stich of rancor, or stand farther off and rely upon the enticing powers of persuasion. I expect, however, to accomplish but little any way.

My hearers—to such of you as are in the habit of *chewing*, allow me to address myself, butt end foremost. If you don't leave off the filthy practice I shall put you down upon my catalogue as unclean beasts to be shunned and avoided by all decent society. It is a practice productive of no good whatever, and fraught with more evil than a scavengers horse can carry.—It renders your carcasses as loathsome and disgusting as those of turkey buzzards, it stains your dickeys as well as your moral characters—blackens both your teeth and your souls, causes an odoriferous stench to flow continually from your mouths—and not only infuses a deadly poison into your blood, but leads you on to an inclination for occasional dissipation—from that to semi-occasional intoxication—and then to actual damnation. Man's mouth, my hearers was never made for a tobacco box, and I wonder how any one can have the courage to chew that which he dare not swallow. I'd like to see a man stuff some of the trash into his abdominal pantry. If he didn't feel uncomfortable about the waistbands soon after, it would be because sickness was afraid to come near him. Do, dear friends, for the sake of self-respect, discard, the noxious quid, and not go squirting your dye-stuff along the paths of decency and good breeding, as, though none but such vermin as you were accustomed to walk therein. Pay some regard to the delicacy of the feminine gender.—The ladies are not to be spit upon with impunity, neither should the fragrance which surrounds the floarers of their love be contaminated with the effluvia of cavendish and plug. You may have your boots well polished—your pantaloons and your coat cut according to the latest fashion—and you may shine forth in all splendor of attire—but how can you have the audacity—the brazen impudence—to look in the face of common neatness and proclaim yourselves gentlemen, while tobacco juice—that unclarified essence of filth—is oozing down from the corners of your mouths into your whiskers! And, augh! how *can* you ever have the cruelty to apply your scarf covered lips to those of virgin purity, or bedaub the cheek of beauty with your nasty kisses! Just fancy, for a moment, how agreeable it would be to you if your wives or

your sweethearts were to meet your embraces with quids of tobacco in their mouths as large as bull frogs, and with breaths thick and stout enough to hang a pair of saddle bags across!—Yes, my friends, how would you like that?—Not exceedingly well, I trow. Think over this matter when you retire to your respective homes, if you have any, and resolve that your teeth henceforth shall not meddle with that which levels a man with the brute, and renders him unworthy of the station which he occupies in the scale of being.

Snuffing, my friends, is nearly if not quite as bad as chewing and I grieve to observe that females, as well as males, are addicted to it.—When I see a woman who speaks as though her nasal organ was made of bell metal—says “pud'n” for pudding—whose skin is as yellow as the latter end of autumn—I know she takes snuff in sufficient quantities to make an Egyptian mummy sneeze in its sarcophagus, and I also know that her brains are equally as dirty as the handkerchief she uses—and that's enough to throw a pair of tongs into convulsions. Many pretend that they take snuff to clear their heads. It clears their heads, in time, of all sparkling, brilliant, original ideas, and leaves instead, a confused chaos of unfinished thoughts, wrecks of fancy, and any number of untamed chimeras.—That is the only way in which it clears their heads my friends. The less dust you admit into your nose, the clearer your head will be—the better your health, and the more transparent your morals.

My dear friends—since we are to be cursed with tobacco, I will allow you to smoke, very occasionally; for by it good moral lessons are taught, and from it much consolation may be derived. When the waters of the mind become troubled in sorrow's sweeping tempest, let a man sit down and smoke a good cigar or a clean pipe, and a lovely calmness will spread itself over the soul, like the golden hues of evening over a sleeping lake. Such is the comfort of the weed; but while it is crumbling to ashes before you, what does it say? It says that soon your bodies will in like manner dissolve into dust, and in process of time be swept by the winds to the four corners of the earth, that the fire of existence which now glows so brightly, will ere long be reduced to a single spark, and that spark be extinguished in the ashes of mortality. The last wreath of smoke that curls upward and vanishes in air, act as a pioneer to the spirit in its flight to heaven—points out the way to immortal glory—and tells man that he must be divested of all such solids as sin, wearing apparel, and flesh, before, he can rise to the realms of everlasting bliss.—So mote it be.—[Dow Jr.

THE HEART—THE HEART.

BY ELIZA COOK.

The heart—the heart! oh! let it be

A true and bounteous thing;

As kindly warm, as nobly free,

As eagle's nestling wing.

Oh! keep it not, like miser's gold,

Shut in from all beside;

But let its precious stores unfold,

In mercy, far and wide.

The heart—the heart, that's truly blest,

Is never all its own;

No ray of glory lights the breast

That beats for self alone.

The heart—the heart! oh! let it spare

A sigh for other's pain;

The breath that soothes a brother's care

Is never spent in vain;

And though it throb at gentlest touch,

Or sorrow's faintest call,

'T were better it should ache too much,

Than never ache at all.

The heart—the heart, that's truly blest,

Is never all its own;

No ray of glory lights the breast,

That beats for self alone.

HOME AFFECTIONS.

The heart has memories that never die. The rough rubs of the world cannot obliterate them. They are memories of *home*, early home. There is magic in every sound.—There is the old tree under which the light-hearted boy swung in many a summer day, yonder the river in which he learned to swim, there the house in which he knew a parent's love, and found a parent's protection—nay, there is the room in which he romped with brother or with sister; long since, alas! laid in the yard in which he must soon be gathered, overshadowed by yon old church, whither with a joyous troop like himself he has often followed his parents. Why, the very schoolhouse associated in youthful days with thoughts of ferrule and tasks, now comes back to bring pleasant remembrances of many an occasion that called forth some generous exhibition of the noblest traits of human nature. There, perchance, he first met the being who by her love and tenderness in after life has made a home for himself, happier even than that which his childhood knew. There are certain feelings of humanity; and those too among the best that can find an appropriate place for their exercise only by one's own fireside. There is sacredness in the privacy of that spot which it were a species of desecration to violate.—He who seeks wantonly to invade it, is neither more nor less than a villain: and hence there exists no surer test of the debasement of morals in a community, than the disposition to tolerate in any mode the man who disregards the sanctities of private

life. In the turmoil of the world, let there be at least one spot where the poor man may find affection that is disinterested; where he may indulge a confidence that is not likely to be abused.

PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT.

We hear much of the improvements of our age. The wonders achieved by machinery are the common talk of every circle; but I confess that, to me, this gathering of mechanics' apprentices, whose chief bond of union is a library, and who come together weekly to refresh and improve themselves by the best instruction which the state of society places within their reach, is more encouraging than all the miracles of the machinist. In this meeting I see, what I desire most to see, that the mass of the people are beginning to comprehend themselves and their true happiness; that they are catching glimpses of the great work and vocation of human beings, and are rising to their true place in the social state.—The present meeting indicates a far more radical, more important change in the world, than the steam engine, or the navigation of the Atlantic in a fortnight. That members of the laboring class, at the close of a day's work, should assemble in such a hall as this, to hear lectures on science, history, ethics, and the most stirring topics of the day, from men whose education is thought to fit them for the highest offices, is a proof of a social revolution to which no bounds can be set, and from which too much cannot be hoped. I see in it a repeal of the sentence of degradation passed by ages on the mass of mankind. I see in it the dawn of a new era, in which it will be understood, that the first object of society is to give incitements and means of progress to all its members. I see in it the sign of the approaching triumphs of men's spiritual over their outward and material interests. In the hunger and thirst for knowledge and for refined pleasures, which this course of lectures indicates in those who labour, I see that the spirit of man is not always to be weighed down by toils for animal life, and by the appetite for animal indulgences. I do attach great importance to this meeting, not for its own sake or its immediate benefit, but as a token and pledge of a new impulse given to society through all its conditions. On this account I take more pleasure in speaking here, than I should feel in being summoned to pronounce a show-oration before all the kings and nobles on earth. In truth, it is time to have done with shows. The age is too stirring, we are pressed on by too solemn interests, to be justified in making speeches for self display or mere amusement. He who cannot say something in sympathy with, or in aid of, the great movements of humanity, might as well hold his peace.—[Dr. Channing.]

DEATH OF MEN OF GENIUS.—How deeply interesting it is to contemplate the death-bed scene of those whose fame will be imperishable so long as genius is admired, or science, art, and literature cultivated! It is said that Haller, the great physiologist, died feeling his pulse. When he found that he was almost gone he turned to his brother physician and said, "My friend the artery ceases to beat," and died. Petrarch was found dead in his library leaning on a book.—Bead died in the act of dictating. Roscommon uttered, at the moment he expired, two lines of his own version of "Diestræ." Rousseau, when dying, ordered his attendants to place him before his window, that he might once more behold his garden, and bid adieu to nature. Alfieri, the day before he died, was persuaded to see a priest, and when he came he said to him with great affability, "Have the kindness to look in tomorrow; I trust death, will wait four and twenty hours." Tasso's dying request to Cardinal Cynthia was indicative of the gloom which haunted him through life; he had but one favor to request of him, which was that he would collect his works and commit them to the flames, especially his *Jerusalem Delivered*.

Clarendon's pen dropped from his finger when he was seized with palsy, which terminated his life. Chaucer died ballad-making; his last production he entitled, "A ballad made by Geoffrey Chaucer on his death bed laying in great anguish." Sir Godfrey Kneller's vanity was displayed in his last moments: Pope, who visited him two days before he died, says he never saw a scene of so much vanity in his life. Kneller was sitting up in bed contemplating the plans he was making for his own monument. "I could wish this tragic scene was over," said the celebrated actor, Quin; "but I hope to go through it with becoming dignity." Bishop Newton died whilst in the act of setting his watch. Bayle having prepared his proof sheet for the printer, pointed to where it lay when in the act of dying. The last words of Lord Chesterfield were, when the valet, opening the curtains of the bed, announced Mr. Drysdale,—*"Give Drysdale a chair."* Warren observed that Chesterfield's good breeding only quitted him with his life.—*"Tell Collingwood to bring the fleet to anchor,"* were Nelson's last words. "I fear not death; death is not terrible to me," said Charles the First, when he ascended the scaffold. Sir Thomas Moore, on observing the weakness of the scaffold, on which he was about to die, said to the executioner, "I pray you see me up safe, and for my coming down let me shift for myself."

The chief office of the mind is, to know and contemplate.

TRUE GREATNESS.—"The greatness of the warrior" is poor and low, compared with the magnanimity of virtue: it vanishes before the greatness of principle. The martyr to humanity, to freedom, or religion—the unshrinking adherent of despised and deserted truth, who, alone, unsupported, and scorned, with no crowd to infuse into him courage, no variety of objects to draw his thoughts from himself, no opportunity of effort or resistance to rouse and nourish energy, still yields himself calmly, resolutely, with invincible philanthropy, to bear prolonged and exquisite suffering, which one retracting word might remove; such a man is as superior to the warrior, as the tranquil heaven above us to the low earth we tread beneath our feet.

Great generals, away from the camp, are commonly no greater men, (not so great often,) than the mechanic taken from his workshop—in conversation they are often dull. Works of profound thinking on general and great topics, they cannot comprehend. The conqueror of Napoleon, the hero of Waterloo, undoubtedly possesses great military talents; but we have never heard of his eloquence in the senate, or his sagacity in the cabinet; and we venture to say, that he will leave the world without adding one new thought on the great themes on which the genius of philosophy and legislature has meditated for ages. We will go down, for illustration, to such men as Nelson, a man great on the deck, but debased with gross vices, and who never pretended to enlargement of intellect. To institute a comparison in point of talent between such men as these, and Milton, Bacon, and Shakspeare, is an insult on these illustrious names.—[Dr. Channing.]

THE CREDIT SYSTEM.—"The credit system benefits young men," says Junius. "Not so," said an old mechanic in our presence, "and I can prove it (continued he) by the incidents of every day. You know B. was a clerk for A., at the corner store." "Yes. "Well B. commenced business with a capital of \$1,000, borrowed of his former employer A.—He went on in a careful manner and paid from \$40 to \$60 per year on the thousand borrowed. At the expiration of several years, I was present at the settlement. 'Well, (said A., after casting up the items,) I find you have paid me \$900, and still owe me \$1,100.' "Impossible," said B., "the original loan was only \$1,000, and you say I have paid you \$900, and yet \$1,100 remains?" The figures show it, said A. And so they did: the interest had amounted to as much as the principle. This is the *credit system*, as it affects young men, new beginners, &c.—[Nashville Union,

FLOWERS.—Ladies who cultivate flowers, will gratefully receive the following recipe for destroying a very troublesome reptile. It is taken from Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture:

Worms in pots may be easily destroyed, simply by watering the soil with lime water, which may be made by putting a piece of lime weighing about two pounds into a pail of water; when the whole is slacked and well stirred up, it should be allowed to settle. The clear water may then be turned off, and the soil in the pots should be liberally watered with it. The worms will soon leave the premises, by crawling out upon the surface, when they may be taken out and destroyed. If any remain, another watering may be applied. We have never found any difficulty in destroying them by this method.

Col. Ethan Allen, of Vermont, was once told by the commissioner of George III. during the Revolutionary War, that if he would espouse the cause of the King, he might have a fee simple in one half of the state of Vermont. "I am a plain man," said Colonel Allen, in reply, "and have read but few books: but I have seen in print somewhere, a circumstance that forcibly reminds me of the proposal of your worship; it is of a certain character that took a certain other character into an exceeding high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the earth, and glory thereof, and told him if he would fall down and worship him, these would all be his; and the rascal," added he, "didn't own a foot of them."

MISFORTUNES OF THE POOR.—The slightest misfortunes of the great, the most imaginary uneasiness of the rich, are aggravated with all the power of eloquence, and held up to engage our attention and sympathetic sorrow; the poor weep unheeded, persecuted by every subordinate species of tyranny, and every law which gives others security becomes an enemy to them. Tenderness without a capacity of relieving, only makes the man who feels it, more wretched than the object who sues for assistance. — [Goldsmith.]

WANTS AND MEANS.—One great secret of domestic enjoyment is too much overlooked. It lies in bringing our wants down to our circumstances, instead of toiling to bring our circumstances up to our wants. Wants will always be ahead of means, and there will be no end to the race if you set the latter to chasing the former. Put the yoke of self-denial on desire, apply the spur of industry to energy, and then if the latter does not overtake the former, it will at least keep in sight of it.

FONDNESS OF CHILDREN FOR THEIR PARENTS—The children of the poorer people are, in general, much fonder of their parents than those of the rich are of theirs: this fondness is reciprocal; and the cause is, that children the of former have, from their very birth, had a greater share than those of the latter—of the personal attention, and of the never-ceasing endearments of their parents.

CURIOUS.—By the new proposition before Parliament, apothecaries are not to be allowed to compound medicines, but only to make visits. The medicines must be compounded by experienced chemists. This is the cart before the horse, and will revive, we should think, the chemical practice of Paracelsus, so famous for his elixer vitæ, a sort of philosopher's stone in a state of liquidity, which was to give immortality to him who drank it.

Some one was saying to the late Duchess of Gordon that it was much to be regretted that Mr. Penn, a young man well known for his eccentricities should be incessantly playing such unaccountable pranks. "So it is," said her grace; "but why don't you advise him better! He seems to be a *pen* that every one *cuts* but nobody *mends*."

If you wish to preserve your teeth pure and white, and at the same time prevent pulmonary affections, cleanse them thoroughly after the last meal of each day, with a clean brush and pure luke-warm water. No drug or powders.

Let youth be trained in the best course of life, and habit will render it the most pleasant.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF AUTUMN.

BY PROF. W. J. WALTER

Profusion walks the laughing earth,
Boon Nature seems reposing,
For she has filled all hearts with mirth,
In thrift her hand ne'er closing.

Hark! how the hills re-echo round
To swains, whose toils are ended,
While with their harvest homes the sound
Of village pipes is blended.

Yet, 'mid the riot of this hour,
Are future cares not banished,
Nor, 'midst this overflowing store,
Have thoughts of prudence vanished.

The needful swain reserves a part
For coming Spring selected;
There is a seed-time of the heart,
Oh, be not that neglected!

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, JULY 15, 1841.

THE MANUAL.—A NEW VOLUME.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the exertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

THE NEW BOOKS.

As Mr. Mattson has brought his work before the public, and as much has been said in regard to both his book and Doct. Thomson's it may now be expected that we shall have some remarks on the work just issued, stating its virtues, &c. But we have not had an opportunity of examining it, therefore, all we shall do is to give the remarks sent us by a gentleman who says he has examined it, and also Doct. Thomson's as far as completed, and advise those who wish for a good Thomsonian work, to examine for themselves before they purchase. On their own judgment they must depend and not another's. Doct. Thomson's work is rapidly progressing and may be expected ready for sale in a few weeks. The typography is handsomely executed; the anatomical and botanical cuts and illustrations are correctly and expensively gotten up, and cannot fail of being of great advantage to practitioners and Right-Holders. And, coming as it does, from Doct. Samuel Thomson,

containing his own experiments and experience, together with the extensive experience of Docts. John and Cyrus Thomson, his sons, it must of course supersede all other works in the Thomsonian market.

Dr. Thomson's work will contain upwards of one hundred illustrations of Anatomy, with a voluminous Index, and a scientific treatise on the same subject. It will also contain a scientific treatise on Botany, illustrated with as many plates of the plants as were thought necessary, with extensive Index and references. The reason why scientific language is used is, that in many instances there is no term in the English language to express the names of the various muscles, nerves, fibres, &c. But giving the term and referring to the page where its application is seen in illustration, conveys the ideas to the mind the same as if an English term were used. In his Botany, Dr. Thomson treats scientifically the principles of Botany universally, and then selects his vocabulary of medicine from the whole vegetable kingdom, and the practical part is that of his own knowledge and experience, together with that of his sons', therefore those who purchase this work will be sure of having a complete Thomsonian work.

The following is an extract of a letter from a person in Maine, who says he was formerly "an opponent," but having seen the cause of truth and its venerable founder wofully belied, he set about examining the merits of the parties and is now an admirer of "Thomsonism," a friend of "the people," and one who "regrets the many innovations upon the rights of that immortal patriot, Dr. Samuel Thomson." He says—

"I was glad that Mr. Mattson had succeeded in getting out his book, and was pleased to get one to examine, even at the expense of seven dollars; I have looked it through carefully, and I find that his Book of Practice is the opinions of other people, and mostly regular physicians, the very men of all others, whom he should have avoided. But what is a work good for whose author depends on the hearsay of others, without practical knowledge of his own. I have seen Thomson's work as far as completed, and think it a decidedly better work; and, as I presume, its System and Practice will be the experience of the founder of Thomsonism and his son's, a comparrison, in point of value, would be idle. Mr. Mattson's Midwifery is only illustrated with two cuts, and those are bad representations. As Mr. Mattson's practical part is that of others, it cannot be considered an innovation on Dr. Thomson's rights; but those who pur-

chase it ought to know that it is almost all other *isms* under the name of 'Mattson;' and that if they want *Thomsonism*, they cannot expect to find it without they purchase Thomson's work. Mr. Mattson, when speaking of the practice, says 'according to Docts. Good, Eberlee, Rush, Barton, &c. The public expect a Thomsonian work, but instead of that, the work is much like Howard's, a compound of everything and every bodies' opinions, without having any fixed principles himself. Therefore, those who may wish to follow his work for a guide, must try the experience of all his authors, and then decide which is best, as he has not given any principles that may be relied upon from his own experience.'

EFFECTS OF MONGRELISM.

A gentleman named *Pierce*, is at Dr. Thomson's Infirmary, in this city, suffering severely,—the effects of *quackery* in its worst form; having taken a large portion of *finely pulverised lobelia*, to which had been added *tartrite of antimony!* and this mixture was given him by a person who professes to be a *pure THOMSONIAN!!* The sufferer brought with him to the Infirmary a sample of the stuff which he had bought for *pure Thomsonia emetica*, of one of those pure people who declare themselves "independent" of Dr. Thomson, and yet, *strictly Thomsonian*. It can be seen, as can also the gentleman who is laboring under its effects, at the Infirmary. This *emetica* was prepared and given, we are told, by a person who has been loud in his denunciations of Dr. Thomson, and it behooves people to be on the look-out for such *honest folks*; we always distrust such ones, for we think their sole object in view is *money*, and fraud and deception the means they use to get it. They are people of one kidney, stamp, and feather. Therefore, of those people who are striving so hard to defame Dr. Thomson, we say *beware!*

Much time and matter have heretofore been used, to warn the public against these pretenders to *Thomsonism*, and of the stuffs they impose on the confiding. And it seems that it is necessary to say more. But sometimes we are almost induced to leave the people to see for themselves, for it appears they heed but little the examples that are laid before them. In vain do the friends of Thomsonism warn of danger unless the people give ear, but we will once more add, that there are at present, many pretended friends to Thomsonism, who do more to retard its growth, than all its open enemies combined. Many of them boast much of the purity of their medicines, of the fineness to

which they are pulverised, declare them superior to Thomson's and even denounce his as *adulterated*. We ask the public to examine for themselves, and when they get deceived by these people, to cast the blame where it belongs, and not make *Thomsonism* feel the lash that *pretenders* deserve.

The article on "Enemas," from the pen of Dr. Bankston; which we published in our 14th number, appeared as original in the "Southern Botanical-Medical Journal" published at Forsyth, Georgia, and should have been so credited. The Journal is a valuable periodical, well conducted, handsomely printed, and calculated to do much good. We wish it success.

Circumstances over which we had no control has caused us to be rather late with our publication, for the last two or three numbers, for which we ask the indulgence of our patrons. We will endeavor to be punctual in future.

"*Thomsonian Messenger*" is the title to a new periodical just commenced at Norwich, Ct. by O. B. Lyman. The *Messenger* is handsomely printed, contains eight pages, in a form suitable for binding, will be issued once a month, for 50 cents a year, payable in advance, or within 3 months after the delivery of the first No. Success to it.

About eight months ago we received a package of medicines from Dr. Thomson's establishment, No 40 Salem street, Boston, Ms., and have employed at various times in our family them for medical purposes, and found they were worthy of the name they bore. As this matter may appear trivial to some we will state why we have referred to it. A Mr. Hale, of Boston, is endeavoring to gull the folks into the belief, that *his* medicines are *pure and genuine!* and Dr. Thomson's the *counterfeit!* the *spurious!!* It is hardly necessary to occupy time or space in endeavoring to pourtray the motive of an attempt of so glaring a character as that set forth by Mr. Hale. If Mr. Hale is desirous of raising himself in business, why employ any other name than that which belongs to him? And if his own name was not sufficient to gain his desires, which appears to be the fact, from his *not using it*, why did he employ the name of a man he affects to CONTEMN! A word to the wise is sufficient.—Phil. Thomsonian Sentinel.

"*ERGOT* must be wholly and forever abandoned, or must be freely used." This is a good remark, Dr. Smith. If destructive, as Dr. Beck proves, let it be abandoned for that reason; if innocent and good, let it be used freely. And we add—let the same rule be applied to the lancet, mercury and opium, antimony, and every other article of the *Materia Medica*.—[Ohio Recorder.

POPULAR SUPERSTITION.

When we reflect on the treatment pursued by those who diplomatically doctor the people out of this world, we are at a loss to account for the horrid superstition, ignorance, and even deception of the most glaring character, that is played off with as much gravity as could be expected on a solemn occasion. Learned ignorance is dignified and adorned by men of education as well as those who are destitute of the art of either reading or writing. Superstition is not confined to any class of society; it prevails wherever man allows others to think for him—and it must prevail so long as we are careless, and deny ourselves the privilege which we should ever cherish—that of examining for ourselves whatever is considered useful to our species. Men are induced to practice fraud and deception so long as they can enrich themselves, and withal be considered respectable. How many families bask in luxurious pleasure at the expense of the ignorance of those who are made the dupes of a profession dignified for their vanity and impotence in assuming what does not belong to them. Many individuals make a loud cry against king-craft, priestcraft, &c., who are among the greatest sticklers for doctor-craft. We have observed them repeatedly exhibiting their sagacity on the merits of the mineral poison and antiphlogistic art of doctoring and with apparent gravity denounce the Thomsonian practice. But when those individuals were asked the question, “Do you understand the Thomsonian system of medical practice?” “Oh, no! I want nothing to do with it—I would not take their medicines on any consideration! only see the folks that have been killed by their stuff! I wonder any person of sense can be so blind as to suffer a drop to go down their throats! Indeed I would rather die than take any of them! I have no notion of being burned with their pepper, or poisoned with their lobelia! No, no, they are not agoing to catch me yet awhile!”

Having heard similar remarks expressed to the above, we have more than once inquired of the individual making them “Sir, do you practice the Thomsonian system?” “No!” was the reply.—Do you understand the system? “No.”

It would be folly in us to occupy time in endeavoring to show the inconsistency so strikingly exemplified as is exhibited in the above, yet we are frequently greeted with denunciations against the Thomsonian practice by individuals who are totally ignorant of its merits, and not only so, but even of the merits, of that which they uphold. We

not unfrequently see individuals sorely diseased, and after having *tried* their favorite “physician” been compelled to *try* some quack nostrums in order to gain relief, and after all this evidence staring them in the face, they are among the loud declaimers of Dr. Thomson’s system! We can yet go further. We have been eye witness in a case of a child who was expected by all present to die, not even the slightest hopes of its recovery was anticipated, during which period an elderly lady exclaimed—“Lor me! who would not be a Thomsonian if their medicines cures this child?” The child recovered by the use of Thomsonian medicines, and is now hearty and robust, but this elderly lady is as much a bigot and opposed to Thomson’s system as she ever was. So much for popular superstition.—[Philadelphia Thomsonian Sent.

A PERSEVERING WOMAN.—A woman in New York certifies that she took 14 bottles Phoenix Bitters, 20 boxes Life Pills, 100 boxes Brandreth’s Pills, 3 bottles Phelps’s Arcanum, 4 bottles Smith’s Anti-Mercurial Syrup, 5 bottles Swaim’s Panacea, six dollars’ worth of Conway’s Medicine, a large quantity of Fowler’s Solution of Arsenic, and different preparations of Mercury and other medicines. Yet, strange as it may appear, she survived it all. Here were hundreds of dollars expended by a poor, simple woman, by reading the fulsome puffs which disgrace the columns of the papers of this country—believing the trash there advertised would be beneficial. The more she took the more she thought she required, until her stomach had become quite a doctor’s shop, and she reduced to her bed. When will the people of this country learn wisdom? When will editors cease to deceive the public by inserting quack advertisements?—[Portland Tribune.

DR. THOMSON’S NEW WORK.

Dr. Thomson’s new work is in rapid progress and will no doubt be ready for delivery in a short time. We have in our possession one *form* of the work, the last *folio* of which is “504.” We learn that Dr. John Thomson, of Albany, has through the politeness of our friend, Mr Silas Twining, of Pennsville, Bucks co, Pa. forwarded us 488 pages of the work for our inspection, which as soon as possible after having received the same, shall receive our attention, and our views of the entire work laid before our readers.—[Phil. Thomsonian Sentinel.

GREAT MORTALITY.—More than *twenty thousand* females commit suicide in the United States every year—*by tight lacing!* There must be a great deal of pleasure in *squeezing* one’s self to death! “Oh! the folly of sinners!!”—[Cleveland (O.) Herald.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

To JAMES OSGOOD,

Editor of the "True Thomsonian."

SIR—My remarks addressed to you in a previous Manual, have been passed over unnoticed. I am not, however, disappointed. It is, in truth, no more than I expected. The man who surreptitiously appropriates to his own profit and advantage, the hard-earned name of a venerable and world-renowned benefactor, cannot be expected to possess sufficient virtue to feel the force of a just rebuke, or magnanimity enough to acknowledge it. The avarice of some men, like the destructive ravages of a "poisonous mineral," corrupts all within. I repeat it, sir, I am not disappointed; and that this may be made more plainly apparent, I have concluded to address you again, presuming that if *you* do not read me, others will, and thus the object I have in view will be accomplished.

And here I will say—for I can say it with a perfectly pure conscience—I am prompted by no selfish or designing motives. I am as unacquainted with Samuel Thomson, personally, as with James Osgood. It is entirely, with me, a matter of principle. I put men altogether out of the question. Indeed, so little am I influenced by them,—so very trifling is my partiality for one or the other, in a case of this kind, that I here publicly avow that if you, or any other man, will show, by fair reasoning, the error of my proceeding, I will as zealously *defend* James Osgood, as I now zealously *oppose* him. But until this reasonable demand is satisfied, I intend to tell you, as leisure and opportunity present, the opinions I entertain of your character and conduct. I shall speak plainly, because earnestly, but at the same time as courteously as the nature of the subject will admit.

You appear to pride yourself quite considerably on the supposed illegality of Dr. Thomson's Patent. Nay, you do more than this—you greatly rejoice that it enables you to over-reach him by using his name with impunity. Else why do you unblushingly declare, (in your advertisement or that of your partner published in the *Bay State Democrat*), "on the authority of the Patent Records of the United States DR. SAMUEL THOMSON HAS NO PATENT"?—What is the inference—the inference that an *honest* man would deduce from this language? Why, that as Dr. Thomson cannot lawfully, in your opinion, prevent you from using his name, you are determined, in defiance of himself, to make the most of it! Your notions, sir, of right and justice, and of

common honesty between man and man, must set most wretchedly loose, if you are governed in your actions only by *law*. Law is made only to restrain the *vicious*, and those who trespass on their neighbors' rights and privileges. A strictly honest man would be just as honest, were there not a single law in existence, for he is counselled by an ennobling mind, and that is a safer and surer guide than cunningly devised statutes. Yet *you* give us to infer, that, because Dr. Thomson cannot legally prohibit your infringement on what he and others deem to be his honest and just rights, you are *therefore* justified in continuing that infringement! This is the legitimate conclusion of your boasted argument; and I am ashamed of you, sir, that one who wears the *form* of a man, has not more of the *HEART* also, than to resort to such miserable subterfuges to screen his palpable misdemeanors.

Mr. James Osgood! Listen for a moment to the suggestions of reason and justice. I ask you, sir, if you honestly think, even admitting that Dr. Thomson cannot *legally* prevent you, that your course is right and honest and honorable, and that you are justified, in using his name *against his consent*, for your own emolument and advantage? I frankly confess, notwithstanding I have sufficient reasons to censure you in the strongest terms, that I cannot believe you will answer my question affirmatively; for it is impossible that a man of your intelligence can fail to discover the gross injustice of the principle involved. Then why persist in your present course? Suppose *your* case was Thomson's, and the circumstances by which he is surrounded were applicable to *you*. Suppose, in one word, that the name of Osgood ranked pre-eminent among the great names of the land—that it had reached a proud position only by the unparalleled genius and exertions and sufferings of yourself—that you depended on its merits for a subsistence—and that in the downhill of life, when you fondly looked for "troops of friends" to cheer the evening of your days and render smooth and easy your passage to the tomb, you found yourself deserted, standing alone like a column in a desert, exposed to "the peltings of the pitiless storm," your honesty impeached, your gray head derided,—no man to cry "God bless you!" and even *your very name filched from you to glut the insatiate avarice of unprincipled and remorseless tricksters!*

I leave you, sir, for the present, to your own reflections, simply observing, that if, like Samuel Thomson, you prove yourself a benefactor of your race, and receive, like him, the heartless ingratitude and deliberate treachery of those you have benefited, you shall never have occasion to say that I did not

prove myself as willing to defend *your* cause as I now am, and mean to be henceforth, in defending *his*.

JUSTICE.

Boston, July 10, 1841.

For the Manual.

ELECTRIC FLUID.

BY J. S. OLCOTT.

DR. THOMSON.—Dear Sir: You will excuse me for addressing you, through an organ of your own creation, when I inform you, that it is for the cause of universal science. Although not a perfect, yet, I know you to be a man of sterling original talent; and a catholic spirit. As I am not a Botanic practitioner, but as I trust my pen will show, one who is well acquainted with both the Mineral and Botanic system of practice, and, as in the present instance, I intend, upon the ground of a higher science, only to exhibit in a few strong points of contrast, the comparative merits of each, I may with confidence anticipate a fair and impartial examination of the materia presented; not only by yourself but by universal society, whatever may be their views, feelings, sentiments and opinions.

In prosecuting the subject of Anatomy and of Materia Medica as connected simply with science; that is, a desire of knowing, I always found a *ne plus ultra* an *ultima thule*, both in the instruction of others and my own personal efforts—not that imposed by modesty, diffidence, religion, science; but stern necessity. It was a solution of everything, at once, into a *we do not and cannot know*: and that too, when on the very principles of the inductive philosophy we were expecting a legitimate conclusion in regard to well known and determinate principles which should result in a higher causality, as well known and determinate. Your naturally originating mind, determining rather upon mathematical certainty than theory, has, no doubt, had a bitter experience of this fact. Now, I conceive that assisted by universal science, and especially the late rapid advance made in Chemistry and Geology, we may confidently proceed a number of steps farther than we have ever done, and affirm both in regard to cause and effect, antecedent and consequent, directly and inversely, that such and such are the material, alone and determinate causality. Nay, we may venture to affirm that since a universal solvent has been discovered, that it not only lies at the foundation of all science, but while it presents so far as it has a bearing, a key to all science, it not only in its nature itself remains forever unknown, but sets an eternal limit

to any high discovery in the compass of human effort in regard to truth as connected with a further causality in material existence. This universal solvent, I need hardly say, is the electric fluid, existing under every possible degree of radiation, from unity to electric fusion; and of permanency, from the electric flash, spark, or bolt, to that of a flower, a being, a diamond, or a system. As you will, before this, have seen a general outline of the Electric system, and as my present effort is to show its bearing especially on the *human system* in connection with the practice of medicine pursued by the different schools, I shall, in this letter, after stating in an extremely brief manner its general character, apply it on the principles of induction, in facts and results, admitted truths and experiments, demonstrable propositions and results to the subject under consideration. Leaving every thing that is now demonstrably true in universal science, the Electric system proposes a demonstration of the *material cause* wherever it is ascribed to “a principle,” “a force,” “law,” “affinity,” “a phenomena,” or “a divine influence;” a true discovery of error, and an adjustment of each particular “science” “or train of discoveries in the order” of reason; and its own establishment on the ground of its efficacy, energy and supremacy in the light of universal truth and intellectual effort. That the electric fluid, infusion and formation is the former of systems—that it impetuates the centrepital and centrifugal forces by continually forming a concentric balance; that it forms bodies as electrydes or exelectrydes whose essence is the electric fluid in a peculiar degree of radiation; that these bodies by reaction as excitement is given are decomposed, the more radiant electricity again occupying the imperfect vacuum they imperfectly fill; that all elements, so called, are merely modifications except the electric fluid itself; that gravity is caused by the electric fluid radiating towards the centre of the earth—levity, from the earth—magnetism towards the polar star—the lesser power by equal radiation in equal quantities of matter and according to the square of the distance; that it doubles gravity and directly or inversely produces the effect—the balancing power of the universe—the difference between gravity and levity, the barometrical oscillations, the magnetic dip as variable, storms, tornadoes, waterspouts, volcanic evulsions; from all extremes in heat and cold, electric radiation manifest to the eye, ear, sense, or judgment—that decay, combustion, petrification, and crystalization, vegetable and animal life, duration and extinction are the more or less active, transient or permanent effects of

this element—that color, sound, taste, smell, touch, are the consequence of its action and reaction; and lastly, that all centres, every particular in universal being, material and immaterial, from the sun to an animalcule, visible only under a microscopic energy of one *two millionths* from visible existence, are as perfect and multiplical as to its operations, as their spheres require—each upon the principle of universal electric formation and electric fusion—in one word, that as the material agency acting in, upon, with and against itself, it is the universal and alone material causality and essence.

Let us now bring this principle to bear upon the subject under consideration—Anatomy as connected with Materia Medica as practised by each school. We have here also to be extremely brief. We shall present a series of facts, known and demonstrable truths; make our deduction, demonstrate, and apply. It is a fact that the whole physical constitution in all its particular parts, offices and circulations is matter: bones, muscles, nerves, cartilages, fluids, glands, viscera, skin, hair, is this and nothing more. It is universally admitted that there is an universal circulation, in which every particle of matter is more or less rapidly removed and replaced. It is not less true, that nearly the whole supply is internal from the lungs and stomach, through the medium of air, food, and drink. It is true in demonstrative anatomy in connection with chemical analysis, that whatever be the modification of food digested, it is reduced in a short time to the same materia, chyle and chyme, is thus thrown into the blood, is oxygenated in the lungs, circulates through the arterial system, and nourishes through the different circulations every part of the body. We may call the deposite what we please, phosphal of lime and gelatin, for the bones and teeth; albumen gluten carbon and hydrogen, for this or that, but, it is produced by a chemical process in which decomposition has first reduced different materia to the same palpable mass; and at the same time, as much materia is *decomposed*, removed and carried off from the body. It is a fact, that, in the circulation of the system anatomical science has exhausted itself in tracing the infinite variety of ducts, till number is *out numbered*, and vision aided by a momentum, in discrimination, of two millions by the microscope, has become extinct in seeing. It is a demonstrable truth, that if a single particle were not in the circulation of the system, and could not become circumnavigated, it would destroy it. Again it is true, that in fractured bones they are knit together by extra gyration; that carious bone

has been formed over it or within it and removed, that in aneism the rib become dissolved in a few days, and leave the heart to play freely, that under certain affections the sternum in three days will assume an almost entirely different shape; that the hair may be changed in a single night to perfect heaviness, that the cranium will in a single week present extensive fissures in the solid bone exactly in the line of phrenological excitement; that certain actions are connected with secretions; secretions with thought, desire, affection, passion; that passion concentrates or dissipates mind according to its nature and the peculiar constitution; that in some instances every passion has been followed by death; that with our hopes, fears, callings, society, enjoyments, and privations, ordinary supply being the same, the whole form changes its being, lines, angles, and aspect; that individuals as in the cholera, are as to their muscles, almost entirely decomposed; a man of 200 lbs. in twelve hours not weighing more than 100: that others have consumed of internal spontaneous combustion, nothing being left but the toes, fingers and hair; that the bones have been dissolved in consequence of medicine, paralysis from external application, the most horrid pains as in the *tic doloerux* from no demonstrable cause; instant death in the tide of health and on most careful post mortem examinations no assignable cause discoverable; in intoxication an apparently entire change in disposition; in insanity a real one; in a trance apparent death with the most intense attention and knowledge of passing realities, &c. Once more: it is a fact that the electric fluid thrown through the fingers into a tumbler of water and given to one of a peculiar constitution, will impede the radiant electricity centering to the earth causing gravity, and prevent that in a great measure shot from the brain in voluntary motion; making *specifically light* and *involuntary*; that of five men, one who shall lie with stiffened muscles, on his back, may, at the respiration of a long breath by all five, be lifted on the joints of the forefinger of the four as a sheaf of wheat, but will descend with a four-fold gravity to the earth. These two last facts established by oft repeated experiments, led me to believe that *gravity and voluntary motion were caused by the electric fluid*; and ultimately, that the electric fluid is the *material* and only cause of elliptic, circular, and diurnal motion; it being absurd to suppose attraction and repulsion between bodies without an interposing materia, and this in experiment being found not only to exist but to attract and repel directly and universally as the square of the distance and quantity of matter—it is the lever power change of centre doubling gravity, and by radiating electricity

in the bodies making specifically light or heavy as excentricity is changed.) Thus we have a known, efficient, adequate and determinate, *material* cause, where Newton assigned an unknown, indefinite and imaginary one.

(To be continued.)

For the Manual.

Mr Editor:—I noticed in a late number of your useful periodical a communication to James Osgood, from Justice. I feel it a duty which I owe to Justice, to commend him for his able, frank, and judicious mode of communication to Mr. Osgood, and am happy to be able to state, in truth, that his conduct corresponds so well with his name—being evidently willing to “give the devil his due.” I hope he will continue to “render unto Cæsar (Osgood) the things that are Cæsar’s, and unto Thomson the (honorable) things that are Thomson’s.”

JUDGMENT.

Boston, June 25, 1841.

Being rather late in getting this number of our periodical to press, we are enabled to give the following remarks, made by the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian, which was received just as our form was made ready. The opinion expressed by the editor of that paper will carry more weight with it than any remarks of ours, as he is disinterested in the sale of either of the books, and will of course speak in favor of the one which he considers the most valuable. Mr. Lapham is a gentleman well known in the Thomsonian ranks, and is capable of deciding on the merits of medical works, having had much experience in the profession.

THE RIVAL BOOKS, OPINIONS, &c.

Through the politeness of a friend, we have been favored with the perusal of Doct. Mattson’s “new work,” and was much pleased with the mechanical execution. The printing and binding are done in a workmanlike manner, and the plates are splendid.

We have long been anxious to see and compare this book with Doct. Thomson’s which is now nearly completed. No doubt each of these rival authors have done their best; they have spared neither time nor money in perfecting their works, and we trust that the competition will prove a public benefit. Several of our Thomsonian friends in this place, including one of the Professors of the Poughkeepsie college, have participated in the examination of these new books, and the decision thus far is unanimous, and decidedly in favor of Doct. Thomson’s in regard to its practical utility and method of arrangement. We presume that Doct.

Mattson will be candid enough to acknowledge that Doct. Thomson’s work is the most valuable production, as such an acknowledgment would detract nothing from his own, or lessen its value in public estimation. We would advise our Thomsonian friends in the state of New York to purchase both books, especially those who feel able to do so; but if they can afford but one, we think they would be much better satisfied with Doct. Thomson’s.

These remarks are not made for the purpose of exhibiting the least partiality for either of the authors, but simply and solely for the benefit of a portion of our readers who place dependence upon our judgment in deciding upon this matter. A good understanding and friendly feelings have always existed between Doct. Mattson and ourself, which is more than we can say of Doct. Thomson; but our duty as the conductor of a Health Journal compels us to abandon all personal feelings when called upon for correct information in relation to a subject that excites so much interest. Both of these works will no doubt meet with an extensive sale, and the authors be amply rewarded for the time and labor expended for the benefit of the community.—We wish them success in this great and important undertaking, as public opinion will probably be influenced more by these publications in regard to the practice of medicine than all other works combined, except Doct. Thomson’s former Guide to Health; and as a sample of our sincerity, we will take a copy of each.—[Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.]

CHANGE.—A lady who was very modest and submissive before marriage, was observed by a friend to use her tongue pretty freely after. He remarked—“There was a time when I almost imagined she had no tongue.” “Yes,” sighed the husband, but it is *very long since!*”

RESPIRATION.—It has, for a long time, been a standing opinion among medical men, that the lungs of living beings generate heat by the chemical action supposed to occur during respiration, of an absorption of oxygen and an expulsion of carbonic acid gas. Among the many innovations, in these times of new and strange things, is that of a denial of the old and long considered fundamental doctrines of the generation of animal heat. Mr. Macilwain, in a recent work published in England, “On Respiration and its relation to Animal Temperature,” from many experiments and known facts, comes to the conclusion that the theory cannot be sustained. Professor Miller, of Baltimore, has for some years, we understand, entertained views peculiar to himself on this subject, or rather upon the arterialization of the blood, the change of which from venous to pure blood is in consequence he says of a magnetic action. From ex-

periments he finds that a stream of electricity passed through dark venous blood will change it at once to a rich colored arterial fluid. Highly important deductions rest upon the satisfactory explanation of this phenomenon. If animal heat is not derived from the absorption of oxygen during respiration, from whence is the constant supply which must go to make up the unremitting escape of it from the body?—[New York Signal.]

Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only places in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st, and at No. 71-2 WATER STREET, near Washington street.

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [better than those which have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their better medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against a gang in Blackstone street calling themselves Thomsonians, with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmity at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman, whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheep's clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The Infirmary and Store at No. 40 Salem st. are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.


Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

The following is a list of some of the medicines for sale at the above establishment, with their prices annexed:—

Cayenne,	\$1.00 per lb.	12½ cts. per oz.
Composition Powder,	1.00	12½ "
Conserve Hollyhock,	1.00	12½ "
" " Pills,	1.25	12½ "
Coffee, or coarse Bayb.	.50	12½ "
Cancer Plaster,		25 "
Golden Seal,	1.50	12½ "
Ginger, ground,	0.25	
Headache Snuff,	1.25	12½ "
Healing Salve,	1.00	12½ "
Lobelia, green	2.00	25 "
Lobelia Seed, pulv.	3.00	25 "
Murrh Gum,	1.00	12½ "

Nerve Powder,	2.50	20 "
Poplar Bark,	0.50	12½ "
Raspberry Leaves,	0.50	12½ "
Spiced Bitters,	1.00	12½ "
Strengthening Plaster,	1.00	20 "
Slippery Elm Bark,	1.00	12½ "
" " pulv.	1.05	12½ "
Unicorn Root,	2.50	25 "
Woman's Friend,	1.00	12½ "
Volatile Salts,	1.50	25 " per bot
Cough Syrup,	\$1.00 per bottle.	
Nerve Ointment,	3.00	per bot. 25 "
No. 5 Syrup,	1.00	
Eye Water,		25 "
Meadow Fern Ointment,		25 "
Pepper Sauce,	0.42	"
Rheumatic Drops,	1.00	12½ "
Tincture Lobelia,	1.00	12½ "
Third Preparation,	2.00	25 "
Vegetable Jelly,	1.00	"
Wine Bitters,	0.75	"

Dr. Thomson will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be post paid or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits; if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles* and *Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“ Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, AUGUST 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 18.]

FLOWERS.

The Flowers are here again,
Blown into being by the breath of Spring;
They fill the vale, and over hill and plain
Far strown, their sweetness fling.

Oh, pale, wild flowers!
That perfume far away the solemn wood—
Blooming all day, and with the sunset hours
Closing in solitude.

With faces to the sky,
Earth-born ye are, and nursed by sun and showers;
With sin nor pain in life, sinless ye die,
In autumn frosts, pale flower.

God's testament to man,
By works, are ye, oh flowers, throughout the earth;
As part and parcel of His mighty plan,
When worlds on worlds had birth.

From Fonerden's Botanic Journal.

ON DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

BY W. H. FONERDEN, M. D.

(Concluded.)

In the treatment of neurotic, or nervous diseases, the vapor bath is also a valuable auxiliary to lobelia. It moderates both the force and frequency of the heart's action, relaxes the tension of the muscular fibre, allays pain, and diminishes general excitement. To accomplish these designs the hot and tepid baths have both been employed, but without the advantage to be derived from the means now under consideration. Indeed, except so far as the promotion of perspiration the relaxation, and the alleviation of pain are concerned, the hot bath resembles the vapor bath in no respect. The exhibition of the former, on the other hand, increases the frequency of the pulse, and raises the temperature of the body; while the tepid bath produces the good effects resulting from the action of vapor, in a very subordinate degree.

The moderation of arterial action, it is true, may be accounted for also by the relaxation of the arterial coats, as well as by any immediate impression made upon the nerves, since the enlarged and less obstructed passage thus afforded the circulating fluid, will of course reduce the velocity of the current: but it must be evident that relaxation is but an effect of a primary impression on the nerves.

VOL. VII.—No. XVIII.

On the same principle I account for its beneficial influence in relieving inordinate tension of the muscular fibre; or in other words, in producing general relaxation in proportion to the loss of vitality, will be found the predominance of that tendency in the muscular tissues to contract. This tendency, I have elsewhere called, for want of a better term, inorganic contractility. Now, whenever the nerves are possessed of the necessary amount of vitality, or, to speak more in accordance with the common principles of science, whenever a due quantity of nervous influence is generated, and properly distributed, this contractile tendency is counteracted, and the muscles secured. Hence, when the vapor bath relaxes the tension, contraction or spasm of the muscular system, it must necessarily be through the nerves.

I am borne out, moreover, in this position, by the alleviation of pain which its administration produces. That pain is the consequence of muscular tension in many cases, is apparent from the fact, that the greatest pain of an inflamed tumor, is experienced when the tension is greatest; and that as the tension is overcome the pain proportionately subsides. The vapor bath in alleviating pain, whether arising from spasmodic contractions, or tumefied inflammations, must counteract this inorganic contractility; and since this is owing to a loss of nervous energy, or vital power, it seems a rational inference that it also operates on the nervous system.

The diminution of general excitement which follows its use, also point, out its importance in nervous disease. I am aware that this effect may, in a certain sense, be considered a secondary one; but I still believe, that, if the manner in which it is produced, be remembered, it will not detract the least from the claims of the vapor bath. General excitement is in a degree, relieved by the promotion, or rather by the occurrence of perspiration. Perspiration, however, can be produced only by relaxation of the skin; and as I have already shown, that relaxation depends on the condition of the nerves, it must be obvious, that in causing perspiration and thereby calming the general excitement, the vapor bath acts also on the nerves.

I may, nevertheless, remark, the promotion of perspiration is not the sole mode of its operation in the alleviation of general excitement, as is manifest from the disposition to sleep, which

it produces; thereby evincing a direct action on the nervous system, of an anodyne character.

These observations on lobelia and the vapor bath, I have made for the purpose of showing you the importance of uniting them in full courses of medicine, when called on to treat nervous diseases. Their modes of operation and effects, prove them admirably adapted to the disorders of the nervous system; and he who fails to employ them is either guilty of wilful dereliction of duty, or ignorant of the first principles of his profession.

I have before hinted at the importance, and necessity, of proper attention to the great sympathetic nerve, or ganglionic system: the remarks I have to make on this point, will be found not only to have a direct bearing on the class of diseases now under consideration, but applicable, to some extent, to all.

When speaking of the anatomical structure of the nervous system, I said, "this department is, in reality, a collection of filaments from every nerve in the body, which join each other at the contiguous ganglia; and its name implies that its office is to associate the affections of different parts." From this therefore we may gather that it affords us the most effectual and universal medium of communication with every portion of the animal economy. Through it, we may operate on the cerebro-spinal nerves; and thus we may direct our remedial means, either to diseases of intellect, sensations, or motion.

Again, it not only presents us with the most universal, but also with the most direct mode of communication with all parts of the nervous system. By operating on it, therefore, we have the best opportunity of performing a cure in the various cases I have enumerated.

Since this department, moreover, is that by which the involuntary functions,—such as the action of the lungs, heart, stomach, intestines, &c.—or those termed vital, are regulated, we have here an important means of acting immediately and promptly on the organs concerned in their performance.

Hence, from the extensive connexions of the great sympathetic nerve, we may derive lessons of the greatest practical utility. First, we learn, that in symptomatic disease, we have a prospect of success from operating through the ganglionic system, even should the symptoms be so obscure as to prevent our discovering the primary location of the affection: secondly, that in idiopathic affections, when ordinary means fail, we have yet left to us other chances of success; thirdly, where prompt and immediate aid is required, as in apoplexy &c., we should, without delay endeavor to render it by the application of remedies acting upon this nerve: fourthly, that, in all cases, we should pay attention to it, but

more especially in diseases of the nervous system.

Before concluding I would also observed that as the ganglionic system offers the most universal, immediate, and prompt mode of attacking disease; and as we can reach it most directly by enemas, these should be actively employed in every case. They form at once, the most rational, safe, and successful means of relief, that can be applied: rational because they accord with the indications of cure; safe because they act universally; and successful, because they operate immediately and promptly.

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

THE PROGRESS OF THOMSONISM.

There cannot be the least doubt that the Thomsonian system has suffered more on account of ignorant and knavish persons setting themselves up for doctors and medicine dealers, than from any other cause whatever. We are not exactly prepared to say what number figure as Thomsonian Botanic Doctors and dealers in vegetables, herbs, roots, etc., etc., in this city, but we are satisfied there are more than is necessary for the public good. The general impression of hundreds, who are favorable to "botanic" remedies, is—that all the agents called botanic are Thomsonian, and every dabbler in medicine of the botanic order, must in like manner be a "Thomsonian doctor." This mistaken idea is big with evil, and we consider that we should be neglecting our duty, both to God and man, were we to let this important subject pass without an effort to redeem our fellow citizens from deception, and our own system from disgrace, which those miserable recreants of medical science heap upon it by not only their ignorance, but their unhallowed propensity to acquire wealth. The argument used by some of those individuals for dabbling in quackery and imposition is truly ridiculous. They say, "look at the regular doctors, the quack medicine manufacturers, the apothecaries, etc., and you will see that quackery is by far the most money making business, and we see no harm if we can make a penny as well as others—especially when we are satisfied our medicines will do no harm."

On the same principle, quackery has become a fashionable trade. Hundreds having experienced the want of science in the "mineral" practice, together with the destructive tendency of those poisonous and deleterious agents employed as medicine, found a vast field open for speculation, and to work they went, until they have arrived at an epoch in the history of "medical science," that, were not self interest and

power at stake, the mighty bubble of learned conjecture and trying propensity, which still figures under the appellation of "science," etc., would, ere this, have been buried in oblivion.

It is no easy matter to put down quackery while the temptations are of so lucrative a character as they are at the present day. The only redemption, that we can see, for the people to rid themselves of the evil, is knowledge. Let every one who prizes health as a blessing, endeavor to inform his mind on the medical agents. Do not suffer prejudice to govern you, but examine for yourselves, and be sure you do not condemn what you do not understand. If you feel desirous of using Thomsonian remedies, be sure they are such, and then give them a fair trial—do not, as many have done—use but a solitary article, and then say, the Thomsonian medicines could not cure me! You will always find hundreds of "regular" doctors eager to take the advantage of those whom they find ignorant, and to have taken any article belonging to the Thomsonian practice—we might name several instances that came under our notice, and they received the full measure of "scientific" treatment, one in particular, who is ornamented with mercury sores.

We are of the opinion that it is necessary for every individual, who is desirous of enjoying happiness, to look well into the pretensions of every individual or system of medicine before he ventures to risk his health or life under any pretence whatever. We are in a particular manner led to the opinion, by the evidence that is presented in this city by men who are totally ignorant of medical science, who have gained enough to know that deception is the order of the day, and those who figure the most in the *craft* are amongst the most respectable. This is too true to be told as a jest. Every man who reflects for a moment must acknowledge it is no fiction—and confirm the words of a celebrated author—"Man's inhumanity to man, makes countless millions mourn."

From the Thomsonian Defender, Maryville, Tenn.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE.

It has been justly said that "knowledge is power," and with the same propriety we may say, that it will serve as a protector or safeguard against disease: for, had we a proper knowledge of ourselves, the causes of disease, the organ or tissue affected, the proper course to be pursued to remove the cause, and to aid nature in throwing off the morbid matter collected, we would then be prepared to avoid disease in a great extent.

Next to the cause of disease, we should have a knowledge of the symptoms, so as to enable us to distinguish between the organ actually, or sympathetically affected. To be acquainted with this, to any extent, the physician must not only have a knowledge of anatomy and physiology, but a tact or experience which is derived from frequent observation of disease at the bedside of the sick. One of the most simple and important rules for this purpose, is, that when certain functions of the body are troubled, the symptoms depend upon a disease situated in the organ itself seeming to be disturbed. Lest some may be led into an error by the above, as well as the following remarks, we will state, that a unity in the cause of disease, does not make disease itself a unite, for the same cause, at different times, may produce different effects; it may affect one organ at one time, and another at a subsequent period, which, agreeable to Doct. Thomson's doctrine, taught in his *New Guide to Health*, requires an additional and different treatment from the one general treatment laid down by him for removing the general cause.

It is an easy matter to determine when some particular organs of the system are affected, for instance, if there be a difficulty in breathing, cough, deep-seated pain in the thorax, and a purulent, bloody expectoration, our inference would be, that the patient has a diseased lung, and our inference in this case consists in a plain and direct reference of the symptoms to the organ thus locally pointed out.

But it not unfrequently happens that symptoms are not so readily traced to the diseased organ, either because they are not so intense, or because the difference is so slight as not to be easily detected between those arising directly from the affected organ, and such as are merely sympathetic. This difficulty occurs in nearly all chronic complaints, and without doubt, has occasioned the death of hundreds. For example, in cases of dyspepsia, chronic affections of the liver, and suppressed catamenia, the lungs become sympathetically affected; a course of treatment is prescribed for a complaint in the lungs, while the organ actually affected is left without aid, the result of which is the death of the patient.

In all such cases as the above, a critical examination should be made. The physician should examine the head, neck, thorax, abdomen, &c., in order to obtain the general indications of what organs or tissues are diseased and those that are sound. Next to this he should inquire into the patient's manner of living, habits of life, and the first symptoms felt when going into a state of decline. This course will enable the physician to determine between the

organs directly diseased, and those which are only sympathetically affected.

Cases sometimes occur that are so obscure that it would be impossible to trace them to any one particular organ or organs. The patient complains only of weakness and general indisposition, without any local pain whatever: invalids of the last named character should cleanse their stomach with an emetic of lobelia, remove the obstruction of the skin by the use of the vapor bath and friction, and restore the lost equilibrium by strong stimulants and tonics combined.

The physician should also possess knowledge sufficient to enable him at all times to determine from the symptoms whether they are favorable or not. Symptoms may be said to be favorable when the countenance is natural—a feeling of security—free respiration—tranquil sleep—a moist soft skin, and a sprightly appearance.

Unfavorable symptoms, are extreme agitation or unvarying immobility; rapid emaciation in chronic affections; night sweats in diseases of the lungs—great alteration in the countenance—gangrenous spots on the skin—partial or general convulsions—delirium—abundant sweats, especially when they are cold—spontaneous swoons and faintings—a voracious appetite, appearing suddenly in the course of an acute disease, without a diminution of other symptoms—hiccough—intermittance or suspension of the pulse—cold in the external parts, while the internal are burning with heat—and loss of voice.

We will close the present article by giving a short and general rule for the preservation of health, and one that will stand the test when tried.

1. Never take any thing into the stomach that disagrees with your system.
2. Always get up from the table before your appetite is satisfied.
3. Keep the bowels active.
4. Never drink any thing but cold water, aside from fluids used as diet, when in health.

By strictly following these four rules, you will seldom if ever be dunned by doctors to pay a large bill.

CONSUMPTION.

The following facts and calculations respecting consumption are from Dr. Clark's Treatise:

Consumption is infinitely more frequent in Great Britain and Ireland than in Russia, although the cold is much more intense in the latter country. This is in part accounted for by the circumstance that the Russians clothe themselves more warmly, and take better precautions against the cold, than the English.

Their occupations, too, are for the most part in the air; whereas a large proportion of the laboring classes in England are employed in manufactories, where they are confined in a close and deteriorated atmosphere.

Tuberculous diseases are very prevalent among the nations of warm climates, and particularly in the negro race. This is proved by the general character of their diseases, and by the fact that when they are removed to Europe, the tendency to consumption and other tuberculous diseases is always developed.

By a calculation of the relative mortality of the Blacks and Whites in the West Indian Army, it appears that in every thousand deaths among the whites, one hundred and twenty, or little more than one-eighth, are from consumption and other lung diseases; while in every thousand among the blacks, four hundred and seventy-two, or nearly one-half, are caused by pulmonary diseases.

It appears, by comparing the successive bills of mortality in London since the commencement of the 18th century, that while improvements in practice, and other causes, have been gradually lessening the total mortality, these causes have produced no effect on this formidable malady. The number of yearly deaths from consumption, in every thousand inhabitants, has remained, for nearly a century, stationary; while those from all diseases collectively, have diminished from thirty-one to nineteen.

* * * * *

A warm bath ought to form an appendage to every boarding school, and every pupil should occasionally enjoy the benefit of it. A large, lofty, and well ventilated room, should be set apart for the express purpose of exercise, when the weather is such as to prevent it in the open air. A system of gymnastics is quite as necessary for girls as boys. They should be sufficiently varied to give play to all the muscles, and more especially to those of the trunk and upper extremities. If the girl has any tendency to curvature of the spine, those exercises which are most effectual in correcting this deformity should constitute a part of the daily exercise. To the room devoted to these exercises, the younger girls should be allowed to retire, for a short time during the usual hours of school, to amuse themselves at pleasure. This recreation is of the utmost importance: it must, nevertheless, be understood that no exercise is to be considered as a substitute for that in the open air; and for this reason, every female boarding school ought to have a play-ground, where the pupils may choose their own amusements and play without restraint.

Were a judicious system of management

pursued in these schools, not only would the opprobrium, which has so long been attached to them, be removed, but they might be made the means of improving the general health, and even of correcting the scrofulous constitution; they would thus become the source of much future benefit to the children, and happiness to their parents.

From the Southern Literary Messenger.

ON TIGHT LACING.

Dear Mary :—You should have consulted me, before you put on corsets: I would have dissuaded you from it.—However, your mentioning it the instant you supposed that I might approve it, atones for the omission—unless indeed, your frame has already suffered most serious injury; as I fear it has. That extreme weakness when you sit or stand—that sinking of the spirits—that aversion to walking, or riding on horseback—! My dear child, I pray Heaven you may not have started up for yourself an amount of unhappiness that you little suspect!

A very slight knowledge of the delicate and curiously wrought fabric in which the lungs play and the heart beats, is enough to show (I say not the dangerous or hurtful, but) the *fatal* effects of tight lacing; whether with, or without corsets. *Fatal*, to activity, to energy, to good spirits, to health, and ultimately to life.

You may see a picture of that fabric—the bones of the human trunk—in any cyclopedia, or book of anatomy; or in Combe's admirable Physiology.* See a spine, or backbone; composed of twenty-four joints called *vertebræ*, all piled one upon another, and perforated from end to end by the spinal marrow—which is only an elongation, or offshoot, of the brain. From the upper half of the spine, proceed twelve ribs on each side, curving forwards and outwards, till they approach within one, or two, or three inches, of the *sternum*, or breast-bone; when their bony substance ends, and they become mere gristles, seven of which are socketed or hinged into the breast-bone, as the ribs are into the spine. The breast-bone is long and flat—an inch or more broad—extending lengthwise about six or eight inches, from the throat to the pit of the stomach: and is held firm in its place chiefly by the rib-gristles abovementioned, and by the collar bones, which come across from the shoulders and are fitted into its upper end. All these bones and gistles are very soft in childhood; but harden as we grow up, and are strongest at the age of thirty or forty.—They, altogether, form a

spacious, arched chamber or cavity, in which the heart, lungs, and innumerable arteries, veins, valves, and muscles, perform their important offices; contracting, dilating; inhaling fresh air with one set of cells, using part of it to purify the venous blood, and then exhaling the rest through another set; receiving from the veins blood which has gone its round,—cleansing it with wonderful art in a few moments, and sending it on again by the arteries to meander through and renovate continually every part of the frame. At every breath the lungs dilate and contract—at every breath the heart receives a tide of blood into one of its divisions, and pours out an equal tide at another; propelling it with a force equal to forty or fifty pounds weight. For all these delicate and momentous operations, the chamber which Nature has provided is exactly of the proper size; not a hair's-breadth too small, or a hair's-breadth too large. Nay, it is large enough, and the vital movements can be performed, only by certain motions of the bones which compose it. The ribs *hinge* into the spine, and the gristles and collar bones hinge into the sternium; there are joints also where the ribs and gristles unite. By means of these hinges and joints, the bones and gristles incessantly play in and out, or up and down at each movement of the lungs; and to *their* healthful movement, the *freedom* of that play is indispensable.

Now a corset, or tight lacing of any kind, fetters the freedom of those bones; destroys all the advantage of the joints and hinges which nature has provided; and thus lessens the room in which the lungs and heart move—besides depriving them of the aid, the impulse they derive from the motion of the bones and muscles. But all this is not half the mischief. The ribs, especially at the joints or hinges, being soft in young people, and the gristles much softer, are compressed by the lacing so as to approach nearer and nearer to the breast bone in front; sometimes they lap over it, and meet each other: nay, there are instances of tight lacing, where the ribs have not only passed the sternum and met, but have over-lapped each other! Far short of that extreme, however, fatal effects may be expected. Quite a moderate degree of lacing suffices to bring the points of the ribs several inches forward, and to press the sternum inwards; narrowing, just so much, that chamber which was at first not a hair's-breadth too large for the lungs and heart to work in.—besides stopping the auxiliary motion of the bones themselves. The consequences need not be detailed. That the lungs, thus cribbed, and forced to beat in vain against the contracted walls of their prison, should be inflamed and diseased; that the breathing should become short and difficult; that the heart should be

* Combe on Health—in Harper's Family Library.

subject to unnatural palpitations, and no longer drive the blood with regular and healthful vigor along the arteries; that youth's joyous and active sports must be prematurely abandoned; and that life itself, perhaps, after years of suffering, should retire from its beleaguered and oppressed citadel; can excite no wonder.

One fact will show, most strikingly, the horrible violence done to Nature by tight lacing. The fabric I have described—composed of the spine, the sternum, the ribs and their gristles—is naturally cone-shaped; smallest at top, and broadest at the bottom, where the diaphragm separates it from the stomach, &c. Now, by lacing, the lower ribs are so compressed—their greater portions being gristle—that the lowest part of the cone is made the smallest! And this it is, which makes those foolishly admired waists, *tapering downwards*. Let every man, who does not wish to marry consumption, carditis, angina pectoris, or dyspepsia, beware of that taper waist!

When (as it always is) the lacing is carried below the diaphragm,* injury little less fatal, results. Then, softer and more compressible parts are affected—various muscles, the stomach, and other viscera. I leave you to infer the inevitable mischief to these, from reducing them, by force, to half the volume which the all-wise Creator has given. Thus cramped and fettered, it is impossible that their nice and complicated functions can be well performed: and accordingly, in all my practice, I have met with no cases of inflamed stomach, disordered digestion, and dyspepsia in all its forms, half so malignant, as those which sprung from tight lacing. Not only corsets and tight lacing, but tight dressing of any kind, should be avoided, so far as the trunk is concerned. The organs of life should have free and fair play.

After having worn corsets for some time, the victim finds herself excessively weak on leaving them off. Walking, standing, or sitting up, is irksome to her—a reclining posture alone is easy. This is because the muscles—those massive cords or bands of lean flesh†—which traverse the back and sides, and support the spine by nature, have lost their power, through disuse. The corset has relieved them of their duty and left them idle, till they have become relaxed and feeble—nay, have shrunk to half size: for muscles, and all bodily organs, are

strengthened by exercise and enfeebled by the want of it—like the memory. Take away the corset, therefore, and the spinal column totters for lack of support.

This debility must be fought against. The corset must be left off for several hours every day, and for a longer and longer time daily. While it is off, the whole body must be rubbed briskly, and as hard as can well be endured, for fifteen or twenty minutes at a time, with a coarse towel, or flesh-brush; and the patient must ride on horseback, or walk, till somewhat fatigued—keeping as erect as possible. One or more companions ought to cheer these walks and rides, with lively conversation. The rubbing should be done by the patient, as far as practicable; and then by a servant or friend. When the corset is put on again, it should be made no tighter than is absolutely necessary to support the frame; and the degree of tightness should be lessened every day—as it may readily be—while the muscles regain their strength. After dry rubbing for some days, it may be well to apply some cold water with a sponge or the hand, and then rub dry with the coarse towel.

This plan pursued for a few months—perhaps even for six weeks—will cause the wasted muscles to swell and strengthen so, that the corset may be laid aside altogether—as it should be, the moment it can be spared.—Laid aside, never, never to be resumed, unless an anti-tight-lacing physician should deliberately prescribe it. For all doctors are not to be trusted on this subject, any more than upon the question of total abstinence from ardent spirits. Some have their predilections for strong drink—these advise its use, and thus multiply drunkards. Some are prejudiced in favor of corsets—and thus lay many a poor girl in her grave, after a rickety and painful life of burdensome years.

Bless you, my child—and save you from all such wretchedness—prays

Your loving uncle, G. T.

[From the Northern Light.]

POISON FROM ANIMAL PUTRIDITY.

BY WILLIS GAYLORD.

It is well known to those who have paid attention to such subjects, that animal matter becoming putrid under certain circumstances, or suffering decomposition in certain conditions becomes a most virulent, poison, capable of destroying life when taken into the circulation by absorption, or applied to the stomach or to an abraded surface.

The surgeon who frequents dissecting rooms is aware of the danger he runs, as scarcely a year passes in which the sacrifice of one or more

* The diaphragm is a strong membrane, stretching somewhat horizontally across the hollow of the trunk, just below the lungs and heart; dividing the chest, or thorax, from the abdomen or lower cavity, in which are the stomach, &c.

† It may not be generally known that muscle is nothing more or less than lean flesh. Towards the joints, this hardens and shrinks into tendon.

valuable lives is not the result of such poisonous matter communicated to the tissues of the system by some slight wound, a trifling sore, or perhaps a mere scratch. The terrible certainty with which such poison runs to a fatal termination, leaves but little hope to the sufferer; and is still less calculated, perhaps, to induce confidence in the remedial agents which are so potent in many other cases.

Another way in which putrid animal matter operates as poison, is shown in the effects of cheese when exposed to certain influences and changes, and taken into the stomach in that state. Perhaps there is not a year passes in which individuals, and sometimes whole families, are not poisoned with cheese; and this effect is usually, if not always, attributed to some deleterious substance, either designedly or accidentally communicated to it while making.—Examinations made with the utmost care, and by skillful men, have been unable to detect any such substance, and the probability is that the cause is to be sought in the putrid change which such cheese is found to be undergoing.

The following remarks by Professor Liebig, in his "Organic Chemistry, of physiology and Agriculture," would seem to throw much light on the question of animal poisons from putridity; as also on the laws which govern the particles of matter, whether sound or defective, when brought into contact with each other. The case adduced by him, is the celebrated Wurtemberg sausage, from the use of which several hundred deaths are known within a few years to have occurred, and which has in consequence become prominent in the class of putrid animal poisons. The Professor says:

"In Wurtemberg especially, these cases are very frequent, for there the sausages are prepared from very various materials. Blood, liver, bacon, brains, milk, meal, and bread, are mixed together with salt and spices; the mixture is then put into bladders or intestines, and after being boiled is smoked.

"When these sausages are well prepared they may be preserved for months, and furnish a nourishing savory food: but when the spices and salt are deficient, and particularly when they are smoked too late or not sufficiently, they undergo a peculiar kind of putrefaction, which begins at the centre of the sausage. Without any appreciable escape of gas taking place, they become paler in color, and more soft and greasy in those parts which have undergone putrefaction, and they are found to contain free lactic acid, or lactate of ammonia—products which are universally formed during the putrefaction of animal and vegetable matter.

"The cause of the poisonous nature of these

sausages, was ascribed at first to hydrocyanic acid, and afterwards to sabaic acid, although neither of these substances had been detected in them. * * * The death which is the consequence of poisoning by putrefied sausages, succeeds very lingering and remarkable symptoms. There is a gradual wasting of muscular fibre, and of all the constituents of the body similarly composed; the patient become much emaciated, dries to a complete mummy, and finally dies.—The carcass is stiff as if frozen, and is not subject to putrefaction. During the progress of the disease, the saliva becomes viscous, and acquire an offensive smell."

A variety of experiments were instituted by Colin to ascertain the *modus operandi* of this class of poisons. He found when putrefying muscle or puss is placed on a fresh wound, it occasions disease, and not unfrequently ends in death. Boiling water or alcohol will destroy the poisonous quality of these putrefying substances and render them innoxious, but they seem only to produce this effect by arresting the progress of putrefaction. On the contrary, when these poisons of putridity come in contact with the stomach and are taken into the circulation, or are brought into the blood through wounds, as in the dissecting room, the vital energy is not sufficient to arrest the progress of putrefaction in the matter so absorbed, but the poison retaining its active chemical properties, imparts more or less rapidly its peculiar action to the blood, and through that to the muscular tissue.

It would seem that decomposing animal matter, however offensive it may become rarely or never assumes the intensity of a deadly poison, unless the putrefaction is conducted in such a manner that the gasses always evolved during that process are not permitted to escape, but by being retained, are reabsorbed as it were, thus adding energy and intensity to the putrid substances already developed. In cheese, the putrefactive process commences in the interior: there is no escape of gas, but the decomposition goes gradually on, and while all is fair outside, the cheese, instead of curing, is putrefying within. So with the sausages of Professor Liebig. The membranous covering prevents the escape of the gasses formed, and they are retained, while the putrefaction still goes forward. In this country we have never known an instance of poisoning from such preparations as the German sausages, but the general use of meat in all its multiplied forms, renders such an occurrence impossible; and those from the two other kinds of animal poisons, (dissection and from cheese,) have been of sufficient occurrence to warrant the calling of the public attention to the subject, and if possible, its further investigation and elucidation.

OF APPARITIONS.

Many are the stories that are told us of ghosts and apparitions, and numerous the individuals that have believed them. Some of these stories have been related so circumstantially, and with such evident sincerity, that even the most sceptical have sometimes hesitated in their unbelief. Now the fact is, that the sincerity of the relator is no proof whatever of the truth of the narrator. The following, extract from the lectures of the celebrated Abernethy is confirmatory of this opinion.

“There is a curious case related of a man who was a well-known character, and a man of sense—where it was said he used to see a number of people in the room with him. Now he himself has described the whole of the phenomenon, and all the adjuncts to it. He has said, after taking a cup of coffee, or tea, or so on, they came into his room in great numbers; and as he got better, and less nervous, he has only seen the arms or legs of the persons, without seeing any other part of them. Now this is all irregular action of the retina. A gentleman sitting in his library one day, reading or writing, on turning his head saw sitting in a chair, a woman in a red cloak. And he said, “how came you in here good woman?” The woman said nothing. “What is the reason of your being here woman?” No answer made. “You have no right to be here, go out of the room.” She took no notice of him. He got up and rang the bell for the servant. The servant came in. “Turn this woman out.” “What woman sir?” “Why the woman in a red cloak.” “There is no woman, nor any red cloak, sir.” “Well go and fetch the doctor for me; tell him I am ill, and I wish to speak with him.” The man, however, was not to be frightened by this, because he knew it was a delusion of his sight. Now I have had it so often, that it has been a matter rather of amusement to me, than any thing else. I have stood before a glass, and seen the upper part of my head, and eyes, and nose, very distinctly; but I never saw that I had any mouth or jaw; and I have seen my shoulders very well, but all was blank between my nose and shoulders. Why, now I say, what can you make of this, but that it is errors of action, or inactivity in parts of the retina?”

SMOKING.—“What harm is there in a pipe?” says young Puffwell. “None, that I know of,” replied his companion, “except that smoking induces drinking—drinking induces intoxication—intoxication induces the bile—bile induces the jaundice—jaundice leads to dropsy—and dropsy terminates in death.” Put that in your pipe and smoke it.

PERNICIOUS INFLUENCE OF SILENT GRIEF.—A young lady connected with a family of rank and possessing great accomplishments had formed unknown to her parents, a secret attachment to a gentleman who frequently visited the house. When it was discovered, he was requested to abandon all notions of the lady, and it was the determination of her relations to refuse their consent to an alliance with him. Both parties took it much to heart. The lady suffered from a severe attack of nervous disorder, which terminated in suicidal mania. She endeavored several times to throw herself out of the window, and would have done so had she not been most carefully watched. Her symptoms were most distressing. The mind appeared to be weighed down to the earth by an accumulation of misery and wretchedness which she was unable to shake off. “Oh! could I but be happy!” she would exclaim. “Will no one come to my relief? What can I do?” She would walk about the room, occasionally giving utterance to expressions similar to those just quoted. More than once she observed that could she cry, she felt assured her mind would be relieved; but not a tear could she shed. After a fearful struggle for some time, one evening, as she was retiring to rest, she burst into a flood of tears. The effect was most beneficial; from that moment she began to recover. The copious lachrymal secretion had the effect of relieving the cerebral congestion, and in this way the brain was restored to the performance of its healthy functions.—[Anatomy of Suicide.

CURE FOR POLYPUS IN THE NOSE.

In conversation with a friend from the western country, I have been informed of a fact, too important, as it appears to me, to be withheld from the public.

His daughter was troubled with a polypus in the nose, which was extracted by a surgeon, but soon grew again to its former size. He heard of the blood root as a cure, and it was tried with such efficacy that the polypus shrivelled away in ten days, and was soon entirely gone.

Another young woman, in the same neighborhood, had one so large as to spread her nostrils considerably, and affect her speech. After using the blood root a short time, the polypus dropped out, and she was soon well.

The blood root is to be pulverized and sifted, and a small pinch to be snuffed up the nostrils several times in the course of the day.—[Boston Journal.

Let youth be trained in the best course of life, and habit will render it the most pleasant.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, AUGUST 1, 1841.

THE MANUAL.—A NEW VOLUME.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the exertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

DOCT. THOMSON NO DISCOVERER?

Those people who have so long and faithfully served the cause of humanity under the name *Thomsonian*, will no doubt feel much chagrin and disappointment when they find that SAMUEL THOMSON was not the originator of the system which is credited to him. They will, undoubtedly, be everlastingly obliged to *the man*, who had the wonderful *sagacity* to discover the fraud and make it public. But such a prodigy has come to light, and should surely be revered.—Our readers will be surprised to learn, that Mr. Mattson, in the preface to his book, has denied that Doct. SAMUEL THOMSON, has any claim to the discoveries which bear his name! He says, Indians, and others were in the constant use of the remedies, and means for relieving the sick, which Doct. THOMSON *pretends* to have discovered!!—It will be recollected, that Doct. THOMSON employed Mr. Mattson, to re-write the Guide to Health,

and after paying him *eleven hundred and fifty dollars*, finding he could not do the book justice, refused to have any thing more to do with him. It was probably the conviction that he could get no more money from his benefactor, that induced him to extend his researches till he found that *Samuel Thomson* did not make the discoveries he claims.

Neither Doct. THOMSON nor any of his friends ever pretended that *Lobelia* had not been used by people till his time, or that any of the other articles used in his system had never been administered before he relieved the sick by them. *Thomson makes no such pretensions*. But SAMUEL THOMSON was the man who discovered the valuable medicinal and emetic qualities of *Lobelia* and published the same to the world. Indians may have often used it, and cattle have eaten of it; but for all that, it was SAMUEL THOMSON, aided by his own intuitive perceptibility, and by that alone, who brought to light the great system of medical reform which does him so much credit. He it was, who reduced to a complete system the application of *steam, lobelia, cayenne, &c.*, in the removal of disease, and as the means of restoring invalids to health, activity and usefulness. For this complete system of medical practice, sur-named (*and rightly too*,) THOMSONIAN, thousands of people honor the name of SAMUEL THOMSON. For this will his name live in the hearts of his fellow-men and be handed down to posterity, long after the names of his calumniators shall have been forgotten.

It has long been known that the *regulars* would delight in robbing Doct. *Thomson* of his acquired honors, and that many of those who have lived on his liberality would gladly take from the old veteran his hard earned property: but little was it suspected that one who is indebted to Doct. *Thomson* as Mr. Mattson is, for his medical knowledge and information, if any he possess, should make an effort to rob his patron of claims and titles which he has so richly earned. But the effort is vain and futile; it will not receive the countenance of honest men, and only sink its author lower in their estimation. Such efforts are easily seen through—they show in the person who puts them forth a desire to rise, and if not possessing the means himself, a determination to rise on the merits of another; to float at any rate, caring not who sinks if he but swim.

Where would Mr. Mattson now be, and what of value would his book possess were it not for the discoveries and labors of *Samuel Thomson* and the valuable truths he has given to the world? In all probability, he would be now pursuing his former useful and honorable mechanical occupation; an employment which would have done him more credit

than writing pages to defame *Samuel Thomson*. But aspiring above his sphere, he must rise on the back of some one—Thomson was the man. And having gone as high as possible he now vainly endeavors to kick down the ladder on which he attained his little eminence. But the people are aware of the facts, and will award the praise where it belongs.

The following just hit at the late Convention in Maine we copy from the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel. We presume that the editor of the Sentinel forgot that the convention last year showed its folly and corruption, by advising Mr. Hale to run opposition to Dr. Thomson. There may have been some honest men at the convention, who did not understand the merits of the case and thought their action just. But the managers of the show, deserve a rebuke, and the Sentinel has done it well. Those deserving, of course will feel it.

STATE CONVENTION.

The third annual meeting of the Maine Thomsonian Medical Society, convened at Waterville, on the 29th of June last, and passed various resolutions, &c., among which we notice with regret the following, offered by Dr. Colby, jr., who, it appears, took a conspicuous part in the proceedings.

“Resolved, That we witness with pleasure the presence of Mr. D. L. Hale, of Boston, who has so NOBLY DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF! IN OUR CAUSE! BY OPENING A SHOP OF PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINE! etc., and we cordially invite him to participate in the proceedings of this convention.”

In noticing the above specimen of *disinterested* interest for the spread and advancement of Thomsonism, we regret that any man should so far forget the true object and interests for which the convention was intended to have been convened for, under special notice.

Whoever before heard of a man *nobly!* distinguishing himself by infringing on what the labors of another man had produced under the most trying circumstances and bitter persecution, for the benefit of mankind? If such a man can in any manner be distinguished, it must be for his unblushing impudence; and as for the man who concocted the resolution, he could not be far behind for modesty, or a just regard for the cause of Thomsonism. It appears that the motive of the concoctor of said resolution is clearly defined in the resolution itself. For the writer says, in plain language, that Mr. Hale has nobly distinguished

himself in “OUR CAUSE, by opening an extensive shop of PURE Thomsonian medicine.”

As far as the resolution goes, it certainly places Dr. Colby in an unenviable situation, both as regards his editorial dignity and that of his practice, both of which being dignified with the name of Thomsonian. We have every right to believe, from the late transactions of Dr. Colby, as well as former transactions of that gentleman, that he intends to make a stepping-ladder of the Thomsonians of his state, in order that he may ride into power. Dr. Colby, in his advertisement to the public, calls himself a “Thomsonian physician,” and says, in regard to his practice, “*our patients shall be treated on THOROUGH THOMSONIAN PRINCIPLES; no mistake or amalgamation.*” He also says in the same advertisement, that “the Thomsonian system has been proved in every form of disease for forty years, and as yet stands unrivalled in the cure of forms of disease incurable by the faculty.”

This same Dr. Colby has the hardihood to pervert not only his own language but the true purpose for which the convention was convened. He has made himself ridiculously conspicuous in endeavoring to introduce into public favor what any honorable man would scorn to be accessory to; but if we are not greatly mistaken, he will be foiled in his ungenerous attempt to gull the people. The Thomsonians of Maine are not disposed, as he appears to think, to let every one who comes with the name of Thomsonian, gull them into measures that are manifestly got up to deceive them, and benefit a few only interested for their private gain. We have paid for our experience, and trust that our Maine brethren will look before they leap.—[Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.]

We observe a notice in the “Poughkeepsie Thomsonian,” stating that Dr. S. Thomson’s new and *improved* edition of his “New Guide to Health” is nearly completed. We should judge from the above announcement, that Dr. Thomson has found out by this time, that “*improvements*” can be made in Botanic Medicines as well as some other things.—[Botanic Medical Reformer.]

✍ We do not suppose the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian meant improved edition of Botanic Medicines, when he said *improved edition of the Guide to Health*, neighbor Reformer, you don’t understand; the book is to be improved, not the *Botanic Medicines*. But Doct. Thomson never denied that improvements could be made in medicines—he only objected to having other people’s inventions dubbed with his name. “Let every man have the benefit of his own discoveries”—is his motto.

POISONOUS CREAM CAKES.

Most of our readers have probably been made acquainted through the newspaper press with the extensive suffering of numerous families in this city, a week or two since, occasioned by eating of cream cakes purchased at a celebrated confectionary in Court street. In referring to this affair at the present time, it is not our intention to attach any *particular* blame to the establishment implicated, but to warn against confection *in general*.

Independent of the health-destroying tendency of the "*sweets*" manufactured at these establishments, there is ever danger to the consumers of receiving into their stomachs some virulent "*bitter*;" for it is an incontrovertible fact that much of the coloring or frosting of confection is *rank poison*. Among the dangerous articles thus used, are *red lead*, *lithrage*, and *massicot*—all deadly poisons when taken into the human stomach to any extent. Although the quantity generally exhibited in confection may be too inconsiderable to produce any immediate effects upon the system, yet, it is morally impossible that the stomach and digestive organs can escape injury: and further—the articles named above, being all preparations of lead, are considered *accumulative poisons*; hence, if eating of confection be indulged in to that extent which many of our fairer portion of the community carry it, these poisons, thus accumulated, may be aroused into action at some future period, and, in defiance of all medical aid, hurry the suffering wretch to an untimely grave—a victim to *ignorance* and *fashion*.

There is yet another danger to which *candy eaters* are subjected, and although its occurrence may be less frequent than those already named, the results are much more to be dreaded. We have reference to the fact of confectioners purchasing their *coloring* at the druggists, where a mistake of putting up the wrong article is by no means improbable or unprecedented; and, in such an event, who can foresee the amount of suffering, or stay the "fell destroyer" in his course?

A striking instance of poisoning by the frosting of confection took place in New York, March 20, 1835. "A family of five persons had bought a cake at a confectionary, and eaten of it with considerable freedom. Soon afterwards they were all taken violently sick, and for several hours their lives were in the most imminent danger; they however at length recovered. Drs. Hosack and Rogers examined the remainder of the cake, and on analyzing the colored ornaments of the frosting, they found it to contain *one fifth part rank poison*."

The above being the true character and attributes of confection, we are not all surprised that so many

of the fair sex, who are eternally visiting these fashionable shops, should be obliged to have recourse to the same *art* practised by the confectioners—namely, that of *coloring* the *surface*, in order to appear more pleasing to the eye; thus converting themselves into "*sweet-meats*" instead of "*help-meets*."

We have been informed that it is the custom with some, if not all, confectioners to heat over their *stale* ice creams and fill their cream cakes with the same. Should a copper or brass kettle, not well tinned, be used for heating up this stale cream, *sub-acetate of copper* or *artificial verdigris* would be formed in sufficient quantity to produce dangerous if not fatal results. It is not necessary that the cream shall have become sour, for grease, as well as acid, coming in contact with copper, will cause the formation of verdigris.

We cannot close these remarks without referring to the statement of Dr. Dyer, who, it appears, submitted some of the cream cakes in question to the analysis of Dr. Bacon, who gave it as his *opinion*, "after a careful examination," that they contained no *mineral* poison! Did he detect any *vegetable* poison? Certainly not, or he would have so stated. And yet, Dr. Dyer tells us "The only satisfactory explanation which I am able to give of the phenomena, is, that the milk used in these cakes became vitiated from the cows having fed on some very poisonous *vegetable*." He then proceeds to say, that "the occurrence ought in no wise to affect the well earned reputation of the manufacturers of these confections."

This is just such an "explanation" as we should expect from one of the "conservatives" of the "*dear people's*" health. The motives appear to us threefold. 1st. The public mind is rapidly undergoing a change in favor of the *vegetable* kingdom as a source of medicine: consequently, the *mineral* doctors let no opportunity escape of endeavoring to create a distrust as to the safety or efficiency of such a reliance; they would have the public believe that poisonous vegetables are so plenteous and so deceptive, that even the cows have taken to eating them instead of their wonted food.

2d. The doctors are well aware that the confectioner stands second only to the apothecary in making *business* for *them*; therefore, "the well-earned reputation" of confectioners will never be injured by the doctors.

3. It had been whispered about the city that it was more than probable the druggist had made a mistake and put up, at some time, a wrong article for the confectioner, which had entered into the composition of these cakes. The doctors saw at once that such an impression should be nipped in

the bud; for the apothecaries are co-workers with the doctors—they each increase the riches of the other. Hence, in order that everything might go on as heretofore, the whole affair is hushed up by throwing the “responsibility” upon the shoulders of an *old cow*—to the instinct and sagacity of which, by the way, we would more readily trust our life than to the science and skill of all the medical *calves* in the country.

I. H. A.

☞ Sometime since, the New England Thomsonian Depot paper, took occasion to make some remarks respecting the list of agents published in the Manual, and stated that many of them purchased medicines at that shop. We did not believe their statement at the time; and to show how much dependence is to be placed in their assertions, we publish the following letter from an agent at Woburn. It is but justice to the man, that he be heard in his own defence. We think the Woburn people may rely on Mr. Pierce, as keeping good Thomsonian medicines.

To the Editor of the Thomsonian Manual.

Sir:—A gentleman of my acquaintance called at the New England Thomsonian Depot, recently, and while there he asked the man who was in the store, (either Mr Hale or Osgood,) if any person in Woburn had medicine of them. The answer was yes; and looking at his books he said *I* did. Why, said my informant, I thought he was agent for Doct. Thomson. That does not make any difference, replied the man, I sell to a good many of his agents. Now sir, I do not know how many of Doct. Thomson's agents he does sell to, but this I know, that he *never sold me any*, and never will, if all his medicines are like the *rheumatic drops* and *conserve* that I have seen come from that place. The drops are far from being as good as Thomson's, and the conserve was the most miserable trash that I ever saw; I should think it was two-thirds sugar and golden seal.

Your's in haste,

M. H. PIERCE.

Woburn, Mass., July 20, 1841.

☞ The Boston *True* Thomsonian has for a long time published as a fact that Doct. Thomson's medicines are deleterious, and yet in order to secure the sale of their own, they tell people at the New England Thomsonian Depot, that their medicines are *precisely* the same as Doct. Thomson's. We hope they keep Indian meal out.

The correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer writes that the President is seriously, though not dangerously, indisposed.—If he wants to recover, he must keep the M. Ds. away.

AN ADDRESS

Delivered at Woonsocket, (R. I.,) by PARKER A. HAVEN.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

The preservation of life and health is the first great object to which our attention is naturally directed. Of course, the most effectual means to promote that object are worthy of our highest consideration; and their discovery and the proper mode of application is an attainment which cannot be too highly estimated. It is one in which all are deeply interested, and on which every one should be qualified to judge. I need not argue this point with the hearer; the proposition will meet a ready response in every breast: for all know that life and health are blessings which cannot be purchased at a sacrifice too great. Man may be rescued from the bed of languishing; still, to be left to drag out a miserable existence in consequence of the means used to preserve life, is an evil of the greatest magnitude: though such an one may be said to exist, yet his existence is scarcely a blessing; for, deprived of the enjoyment of health, the system retaining the seeds of disease and the active causes of premature decay, pain and misery become his constant companions—he may be said to endure, rather than to enjoy, life. Besides, the preservation of health is quite as important as its restoration. It has been truly said, “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” Every case of severe and protracted disease, even though not fatal at the time, preys upon the system, wastes its energies, impairs the constitution, and accelerates our progress to the tomb. It is obvious, then, that plain and simple rules which all can understand, and safe, cheap, and efficacious remedies, always at hand, which may be readily applied, and which rarely fail to remove the incipient causes of disease, and thereby prevent extreme suffering, and perhaps death, as well as the loss of time and money, which must be to mankind of inestimable value.

That poisons, in what is termed the regular practice, sometimes effect apparent cures, I have no disposition to deny; and a portion of those cures, where diseases are slight, and taken in their incipient stages, may be real and permanent; but by far the greater portion of the supposed cures, and especially in cases of obstinate fevers, I am well satisfied, from my own observation and the testimony of others, leave the patient the victim of lingering disease and torment, cheated by the very remedies employed for the restoration of health, and even worse than the original malady under which he suffered.

The Thomsonian medical practice furnishes safe, efficacious, and healthy substitutes for those poisonous remedial agents ; it furnishes the healing balm, the products of our own soil, to remove disease, to restore the sufferer to sound health, and without leaving him the victim of those enervating and deleterious effects produced by the mineral poisons, which a false science and heartless cupidity have combined to curse suffering humanity with.

The evil of mystery which has hitherto enveloped the medical science and practice, has prevented men from looking into the nature of the diseases incident to our race : hence, but few are aware that the slightest indisposition is but too generally the precursor of some distressing, if not fatal malady. In apparently slight cases, to call a physician, is troublesome and expensive ; the members of the domestic circle are unacquainted with the symptoms and the means of prevention ; all has been entrusted to the doctor, as having the only legitimate right to know any thing about diseases ; the case is neglected for the present, as there appears no immediate cause for alarm ; the "slight cold" continues ; the appetite fails ; a burning sensation creeps over the skin, followed by alternate cold and shivering ; pains dart through the head, sides, and limbs ; and there is parching thirst and continual restlessness ; in the morning, the patient attempts to rise from his bed, finds himself sick, and sends for a doctor ; he, on his arrival, finds the patient who had a slight cold, burning up with a raging fever ; calomel and the lancet are applied, but in vain ; perhaps nature may finally prevail over the disease and the remedies applied ; the patient may recover, to feel, during the remainder of his life, the pernicious effects of the drugs he has been compelled to swallow ; or, which is quite as probable, the disease may triumph, and, aided in the work of death by calomel and the lancet, hurry the suffering victim to a premature grave.

As a preventive against the fatal evil, the Thomsonian practice presents the beneficent means which nature has provided, and freely furnishes. It is not too much to say, that in almost all cases where these remedies are seasonably applied, according to the simple directions of Doct. Thomson, diseases will be readily baffled, and the fatal or pernicious effects, which otherwise ensue, either from the disease itself or a false mode of treatment, be entirely prevented. These hints are not speculative ; they are founded on the result of experience ; and there are thousands now living in the enjoyment of sound health, who can and do

attest to their truth ; and who, but for the Thomsonian system of medical practice, would long since have slumbered in their graves, or been dragging out a miserable existence, in the daily expectation of being released from suffering by the hand of death. I entertain you with no fiction—I speak only of reality. Although the system has been bitterly opposed by the medical faculty and its friends, from the first moment of its introduction by SAMUEL THOMSON, yet, no one can deny its superior success over all others, and that it has often succeeded when all others had failed. But notwithstanding the virulence of the opposition it has had to encounter, and the unhallowed means adopted to carry out that opposition, the march of Thomsonism has been constantly onward. Little by little the light of simple truth has penetrated the mystic shades of legal quackery, and convinced men that it is better to be saved by the students of nature's laws, who deal in nature's remedies, than to be killed or maimed by science, with the poisons prepared by the labor of art. The time is at hand when the quackery of the medical school will be openly exposed, and fully understood—when the veil will be withdrawn which has so long shielded the mystery of iniquity from public gaze—when men shall learn the secrets of the crucible and the laboratory—when they shall openly see, and duly appreciate, the weapons which chemical science has put into the hands of the *grizzly monster*, to accelerate his work of destruction.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MR. MORRIS MATTSON'S "AMERICAN VEGETABLE PRACTICE."

MR. EDITOR:—I have carefully looked through the book of Mr. Mattson, who, I perceive, has very modestly styled himself in the title-page, "Physician to the Reformed Boston Dispensary, [!] Lecturer on Physiology, [!!] the Practice of Medicine, [!!!] etc., etc." What all this means, is entirely beyond my comprehension to discover. Pray, Mr. Mattson, do tell us where we are to find the "Reformed Boston Dispensary?" I profess to be "a native, and to the manor born," and have had no small experience in matters pertaining to medicine ; but I never before heard of the "Dispensary" you mention, nor can I find it in our city directory. Please to enlighten me ; and, while you are about it, you will confer an additional obligation if you will establish the claim you set up as a "Lecturer on Physiology, the Practice of Medicine, etc., etc.," for on these subjects I am quite as ignorant as in regard

to the "Dispensary."* But leaving our author's "titles" to be recognised by those who can understand them, I repeat the remark that I have carefully looked through Mr. Mattson's work, and can confidently declare, that whoever purchases it with the expectation of finding in it any new or original THOMSONIAN principles, will be grievously disappointed. I speak without prejudice, having no personal feelings to gratify, and actuated only by a desire to see truth prevail, and a strong determination to expose and rebuke deception. That Mr. Mattson's book is Thomsonian in some particulars, may readily be granted without invalidating the argument I have assumed; because those portions of it, or the *ideas* rather, may easily be detected in Doct. Thomson's New Guide; but by far the greater part of it is scarcely more than a compilation from the works of the *regulars*!

Let me illustrate by a synopsis. "Part first," purporting to be a "concise view of the human body," and occupying some 40 pages, may be found in Dr. J. V. C. Smith's *Class Book of Anatomy*—not in the same words, I admit, but certainly in substance. "Part second," occupying 100 pages more, is a mere enumeration of "the old school practice of physic," known, undoubtedly, to every Thomsonian in the country. "Part third," 182 pages more, treats of the "vegetable materia medica;" this, with "part fourth," which occupies 24 pages in mentioning a "list of compounds," comprises, mainly, the *Thomsonian* portion of the work; and I contend that all the ideas of real, intrinsic worth, may be found in Doct. Thomson's New Guide. (Where did Mattson obtain his ideas of Thomsonism, *except* from Thomson?) "Part fifth," occupying 268 pages more, is entitled "practice of medicine," and purports to give, 1st, the regular practice, which we all knew before; and, 2dly, the Thomsonian practice, which was previously set forth, and much more satisfactorily, in the New Guide. This finishes Vol. I. "Part sixth" commences the second volume, and occupies 185 pages, under the head of "Guide for Women," for the ideas contained in which, see the *vade mecum* of all Thomsonians—the New Guide. The remainder of the book, 28 pages more, is occupied, 1st, with a glossary and index to each volume;

* I remember to have seen in former volumes of the Manual, several articles by Mr. Mattson filled with abuse and ridicule of Dr. Curtis, of Columbus, Ohio, because he (Curtis) was in the habit of appending to his name a long string of titles. If they were as imaginary as those adopted by Mattson, he deserved all the ridicule he received. I think it likely that our author is not blessed with a very retentive memory, or he would laugh at himself when he thinks of the "Reformed Dispensary," &c., &c., &c.

2dly, an errata; and finally, on the last page, with Mr. D. L. Hale's advertisement of the "New England Thomsonian Depot."

Such is a candid synopsis of the "American Vegetable Practice," by Mr. Morris Mattson, "Physician to the Reformed Boston Dispensary, Lecturer on Physiology, the Practice of Medicine, etc., etc.," and, in closing this brief notice, which is intended only as preparatory to a more extended article, when leisure presents, I would improve the opportunity to caution all Thomsonians against being *taken in* by a high-sounding name, under the expectation that they are purchasing a *Thomsonian* work. Mattson's book is not Thomsonian, any farther than it adopts Thomson's principles, which we have had for years in the New Guide; and what man in his senses believes that these can be improved upon by *Morris Mattson*? His improvements are as imaginary as his titles. The proper name for his book, is *Mattsonian*. Thus let it be known and go down to posterity—a standing monument of his own imbecility, and of the folly of those who throw away \$7 in its purchase.

JUSTICE.

Boston, July 25, 1841.

For the Manual.

ELECTRIC FLUID.

BY J. S. OLCOTT.

(Continued.)

Now, from all these facts, we are warranted in assuming the demonstrable proposition that it is the electric fluid which is the *alone material cause* of animal being; life, sustentation, florescency, and decay—that received into the lungs it is thence radiated through the blood, through the whole arterial and venous system into the ten thousand centres of circulation and concentric evolution, formation and decomposition. Thus, as a chemical agent through the blood; it effects circulation; through the saliva and gastric juice, digestion; from the brain through the muscles and nervous action, speech; upon the different viscera, feelings; upon the organs of the brain and viscera, sentiment; simply upon the organs of the brain, perception, thought, ratiocination—extremes terminating according to circumstances, the peculiar constitution, &c.; and in the cases adduced, *as they do*. Now, as demonstration of all this, we say; because the agent does exist and operate; because no other is adequate to produce these effects; because the difficulties in the path of science are immediately removed, and in exact proportion to the perfection and obtainment of the other sciences as they exist in reality and in the mind of him who is heading it; because it assigns

a *material* causality to effects which become material, and as material are destroyed; because, under all circumstances, it necessarily operates and adjusts itself to those peculiar circumstances; because its extremes, as in nature, produce electric convulsion and fusion; the destruction of rest, formation, reason, life, the body. Now these are facts sufficient to establish the truth. Newton saw an apple fall—he inferred and assumed an imaginary cause, and demonstrated its existence: that is, that a *something equal did exist*—that the principle obtained, we discover the real *cause* in physics, and are enabled, as it acts in a higher or lower sphere, to solve in the line of its more special action or more general operation, what in the nature of things could not be under the assumed and demonstrable principle of intermediate causality. Harvey discovered the circulation of the blood. It has been ascribed to oxygen, to life, to arterial action, to the heart, to the special presence and operation of divine power; to a law, a principle, to a nothing; simply because it dies. We assign the known, efficient, material and demonstrable cause of its circulation, and in any one line of action carry it out upon the principles of the inductive philosophy, and say in the presence of universal science and mind it will hold good in all, and you can in no possible instance prove it untrue.

Let us take a few facts. The heart, lungs, arterial system, never tire. They are produced by an all-pervading element which imparts as much as it takes, and, therefore, should not. In sleep, this system is equally efficient in regard to life, but less energetic; lying in a horizontal, isolated, position, the body is a less perfect conductor, less of the electric fluid can escape; less is required in consequence of voluntary effort; therefore, while permanent, it should be less energetic. As a corollary, sleep is part a physical and in part a voluntary cessation of radiated electricity from the brain; a trance, a concentration on the brain; death, its escape from the body. But in dreaming, at times, there is a more vivid picture presented, and a more powerful effect produced upon certain centres of action than could be under the same circumstances awake. The electric fluid, concentrating on certain organs in connection with certain portions of the viscera, should, under such circumstances, produce the effect. The blood in the arteries is bright vermillion red—filled with the electric fluid it should have this appearance. Color is only an electric effect, as is evident in experiment on the rays of light concentrated through a spectrum and lens; the liquefaction of metals;

the inverted head; the diseased eye; the mixing the different acids; and the ærafaction of different metals, earths, and alkalies, by the electric fluid in an entirely isolated condition. Diamond is a brilliant white; lime, less perfect, a brilliant purple, &c.

As conclusion, two facts present themselves; the effect of a pulsation of the heart is felt all over the system infinitely quicker than the most forced oscillatory motion in propulsion; and the fluid creates for itself arteries, veins, and bones, as in case of amputation, aneurism, or carosity, as channels, or destroys them. Believing the proposition sufficiently sustained, that the electric fluid is the alone, material, cause of life, being, sustentation, florescency and decay; and especially, that it is the material cause which effects the circulation of the blood; we are prepared, after a few observations which will to the reflecting mind become perfectly plain, to apply our science to the subject under consideration.

Every kind of food as having more or less radiant and condensed electricity as an electryde, or making a more or less powerful demand as an exelectryde, is adapted to the peculiar nature of every kind of animals that obtains; and the nature and habits of the animal to the reception and acquisition of the food. This is especially the case with man. When there is an equilibrium between the food and the radiating power of the stomach, the food cannot be digested. When the demand is imperious, as in an exelectryde inflammation, paralysis or spasmodic affection of the organ follows, food then becomes poison. It will, on the least reflection, be seen, that in the case of all medicine, whether *botanic* or *mineral*, there must be an extra impartation or demand of the electric fluid to create either *action* or *reaction*.

We are now prepared to contrast the merits of these two systems. They rest on the admission or rejection of the following propositions. That system is the best which admits of the least extremes; which shall be followed by the least and fewest deleterious consequences to health and life; which shall, in the result, admit of the least mercenary excitement to mal-practice; which, in the result, is the most efficient in restoring health and perpetuating life. As skill, science, talent, profession, are ultimately held in requisition, the *argumentum ad homines* would be as absurd as it is invidious. It is simply the *respective merits* of the systems. And is there any one who will for a moment deny either our premises or the justness of their legitimate conclusion? When two systems are proposed in contrast, and it is taken as grant-

ed that one or the other must excel, who is there, in the exercise of a correct judgment and a benevolent heart, who will not declare that the system which excludes the greatest extremes; which is followed with the fewest deleterious consequences to health and life; which admits of the least inducement to mal-practice; and which, in the result, is the most efficient in perpetuating health and life, is the one which stands pre-eminent in the scale of intrinsic excellence? It is health and life that are the objects to be sought in all the variety of sickness, disease and death! It is in the internal and external adaptation of the *means* to the *end*.

We have now the subject fairly before us. And need we argue the point? Are not the merits of the case at once discovered, the cause pled, and verdict awarded? Who that is acquainted with the Thomsonia materia does not know that it is *perfectly harmless*? Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, are not vegetable poisons. They are not in the *extreme*. They can be followed by no dangerous consequences. The steam or vapor bath may be injurious as an extreme; but it is now well known at what point it must cease to be applied; and there is no pride of profession, no mercenary motive to use it, especially. The whole philosophy is, *by the most efficient yet mild and safe means to relieve nature*. Lobelia, for I have taken it twice myself to be sure of its efficiency and result, empties the stomach of all crude materia, which, under any circumstances, would be injurious to force through the bowels; does not disturb the bilious system; leaves the gastric juice and the stomach in a healthy state; and prepares the patient almost immediately to receive nourishment from food and drink and to digest them.

The cleansing the body by vapor, leaves the skin prepared to act as the medium of radiant electricity from the atmosphere, and as the grand respiratory system to that which would escape, carrying with it, in *chemical decomposition*, far more materia than escapes in every other manner, and which can *thus alone escape*. The blood diminishes only in a natural manner, and retains its volume as the medium of electric radiation. That this system is perfectly efficient, I do well know. I saw Dr. John Millen, of Augusta, Geo., receive under his hands a young man, who was a printer, whose lower limbs had suffered a paralysis, and who was given over as a hopeless case. He was a relative of a then Mrs. Faber. Dr. M. operated gratuitously. In less than a month he was perfectly recovered. Affidavits can be obtained of this fact. During the late awful visitation of the

city, while the mineral physicians were losing four out of five, and dying themselves, daily, Dr. M. lost but one out of twenty-three at one time under his hands; and that one taken as a hopeless case from the minerals. This fact can be established by the most ample and respectable testimony.

(To be continued.)

Only one tenth of the human body is solid matter. A dead body weighing 120 lbs. was dried in the oven till all moisture was expelled, and its weight was reduced to 12 lbs. Egyptian mummies are bodies thoroughly dried;—they usually weigh about 7 lbs.

WELLERISM.—“Die Stuffs,” as the man said when he went into the apothecary’s shop.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles* and *Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman’s friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

WANTED,

BLACK CHERRY, BLACK BIRCH AND POP-LAR BARK.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, requests people in whose vicinity Poplar, Black Cherry, and Black Birch Bark grows, to gather a quantity of the bark of each of the above trees. Also the bitter herb Bolmony,—and those who can to procure the oil of Pennyroyal, for which a fair price will be paid on delivery at No. 40 Salem street.

Boston, June 1, 1841.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, AUGUST 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 19.

TRUTH.

To spread the truth, and truth alone,
May this be our unvaried aim;
Though error's seeds, profusely strown,
Fill all the paths to truth's domain.

To pluck these errors from the mind,
And lay the simple truth to view;
Let us unite with feelings kind,
And study nature through and through.

The truth will ever stand the test
Though oft assailed on every side;
And he alone is truly blest,
Who ever makes the truth his guide.

MERCURY,—AND ITS EFFECTS UPON THE HUMAN CONSTITUTION.

The preparation of Mercury most in use as a medicine, is commonly denominated by writers on *materia medica*, the mild muriate of mercury—calomel; or the sub-muriate of mercury of the London and Edinburgh *pharmacopœias*.—This preparation of mercury, (calomel,) is said to possess many various and valuable medicinal properties; known in medical language, by the terms, cathartic, laxative, alterative, diaphoric, expectorant, deobstruent, anthelmintic, sialagogue, &c. Though it is frequently given to act in each of the ways above mentioned, yet it is most frequently exhibited, with a view to obtain the benefits supposed to arise from its cathartic or purgative effects.

But before we proceed further to examine the subject now before us, it may not be improper to submit a few preliminary remarks for the consideration of our readers.

Since our remedial agents are generally confined to the vegetable kingdom, some may think we possess an hereditary or innate prejudice against minerals, and that, on the other hand, we are prepossessed in favor of vegetables.—To this idea we must answer, that, whatever may be our prejudices against the one, or our prepossessions in favor of the other, they are all honestly and candidly acquired; they are founded upon that kind of science, whose basis is fact, derived from actual experience and observation. We have no prejudices against the name of mineral, and if articles of the mineral kingdom could be so used as to contribute to the relief of suffering humanity, without at the same time subjecting the system to accident or dangers, the occurrence of which would be more intolerable than death itself, we would heartily

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unite with our professional brethren in the use of minerals; but when we have sufficient evidence to convince us that certain minerals which are now extensively used as medicines, exert a highly pernicious influence upon the constitution, and cannot be used in any case, even in small quantities, without danger, we are then obliged, in obedience to the demands of our own conscience, of justice, of love to mankind, and of moral duty, to denounce the use of them, and to use every honorable and laudable means in our power, to show to the world the evils consequent upon their use.

By many English and American physicians, calomel is administered for the cure of almost every disease, to which the frail system of man is incident. The learned French, German and Italian physicians, together with most all continental physicians, express much astonishment at the abundant use of mercury by the English.—The former only use it in a few peculiar cases, while the latter exhibit it indiscriminately in almost every case! But, if possible, American physicians are still more profuse in the use of this article than the English. In cases of fevers, after having introduced the treatment by bleeding, a quantity of calomel, combined perhaps with jalap, is administered; it is given with a view of obtaining its cathartic effect, and thus reducing the action of the heart and arteries by mercurial depletion. But it is necessary here that we make some inquiries into the natural and chemical history of mercury, since what little has been said, alone relates more particularly to its medical history, that is, its character as given in *materia medica*. The principal ore of this metal, is the *sulphuret* or *native cinnabar*, from which the mercury is separated by distillation with quicklime or iron filings. Mercury is a brilliant white metal, having much of the color of silver; whence the terms *hydrargyrum*, *argentum vivum* and quicksilver. It is liquid, at all common temperatures, solid and malleable at forty degree, and it boils and becomes vapor at about six hundred and seventy degrees. Its specific gravity compared to water is as 13.5 to 1. Mercury is sometimes adulterated with the alloy of lead and bismuth—a fraud easily detected by the want of its due fluidity, and by its not being perfectly volatile, but leaving a residuum when boiled in a platinum or iron spoon. Native mercury occurs in small globules, in most of the mines producing the ores of this metal. Mercury and chlorine, combine in two propor-

tions, and *protochloride* and *perchloride* of mercury are the results. These compounds are usually called *calomel* and *corrosive sublimate*. In the *London Pharmacopœia*, they have received the improper names of *submuriate* and *oxymuriate* of mercury.

PROTOCHLORIDE OF MERCURY.—This compound commonly termed *calomel*, is first mentioned by Crollins, early in the seventeenth century. The first directions for its preparation are given by Benquin, in the *Tyrocenium chemicum*, published in 1608. He calls it *draco mitigatus*. Several other fanciful names have been applied to it, such as *aquila mitigata*, *manna metallorum*, *panchymagorum minerale*, *sublimatum dulce*, *mercurius dulcis*, &c.

The most usual mode of preparing *calomel* consists in triturating two parts of *corrosive sublimate* with one of *mercury*, until the globules disappear and the whole assumes the appearance of a homogeneous grey powder, which is placed in a sand heat and gradually raised to redness. The *calomel* sublimes, mixed with a little *corrosive sublimate*, the greater part of which, however, being more volatile than the *calomel*, rises higher in the matrass; that which adheres to the *calomel* may be separated, by reducing the whole to a fine powder, and washing in large quantities of hot distilled water. Pure *calomel*, in the form of a yellowish white insipid powder, remains. It was formerly the custom to submit *calomel* to very numerous sublimations, under the idea of rendering it mild; but these often tended to the production of *corrosive sublimate*, and the *calomel* of the first sublimation, especially if a little excess of *mercury* be found in it, is often more pure than that afforded by subsequent operations.

Mercury was regarded by the Greek and Arabian physicians as a violent and dangerous poison, and for a long time was excluded from the list of medical agents; it was, however finally used as an external application for the cure of certain affections of the skin; from this it gradually came into use as an internal remedy against the plague. It was mostly used in this way by noted empyrics. The employment of it for the cure of diseases was prohibited for a long time by the government of France. But for the cure of some peculiar diseases, it was regarded and proclaimed by many to be a specific. From this it became more generally used, especially by the English, until it has been carried to that extent in which it is given in almost every disease which comes under the treatment of those physicians who use it. *Calomel* is defined to be a stimulating, irritating and debilitating purgative. In common with other cathartics, it possesses a specific quality, whereby it stimulates the bowels to an increased action; thus evacuating

their morbid contents, and giving rise to an abundant serous discharge from their internal surface. *Calomel* appears also to exert a marked and peculiar effect upon the secretory function of the liver; exciting this organ to unnatural and excessive labor in the secretion of bile. When *calomel* is suffered to remain in the system for much time, under favorable circumstances, as respects the action of the absorbents, it is carried into the circulation, in which case it has a strong tendency, (as many know too well by experience,) to effect the salivary glands, the palate, the gums, the tongue and teeth. It has been said by some physicians, and indeed is as strenuously contended by many of the faculty of this day, that in order to break an established fever it is necessary to produce salivation.

But let us examine this proposition, and see whether it stands upon reason, or whether it be raised upon the unstable basis of bare assertion. To break a fever is to remove the cause which gives rise to it. Now we would ask of those who deal so liberally in *calomel*, how the cause of fever can be removed by salivation? Does the cause flow off with the abundant discharge of saliva, which happens in these cases? Does all the morbid matter of the system become concentrated in the glands and other parts about the mouth? Or does salivation itself cure a fever, or is it merely the sign that a fever is broken because the cause is obviated?

We are ready to answer that the process of salivation has no tendency to remove the cause of fever; but that it is a symptom of favorable crisis, brought about by the efforts of nature, exclusive of any aid from *calomel*. This latter position, we shall now endeavor to prove by medical reasoning. It is well known to physicians, that, in order to produce a salivation in cases of fever, it not unfrequently requires the continued and repeated use of *mercury* for several days, and sometimes for even several weeks. Whereas, if a portion of *calomel* be administered for the counteraction of some slight indisposition it not unfrequently (circumstances favoring,) affects the constitution and produces salivation in a greater or lesser degree. By explaining the causes of these phenomena in medicine, and the manner in which they are brought about, we shall prove the salivation is only a symptom of a favorable crisis of the disease producing fever.

1st. While speaking of the action of the arterial and absorbent systems, we observed that these are antagonizing powers; that is, when the action of the one is increased, that of the other is diminished. In fevers, the action of the heart and arteries is increased, and the action of the absorbent system is uniformly diminished. *Calomel* being administered in small doses insufficient

to produce catharsis, and with the intention of effecting a salivation remains in a state of inertia in the intestinal canal, since the absorbents, which open upon the internal surface, are in a state of inactivity, in consequence of the accelerated action of the heart and arteries.

The exhibition of the calomel, being continued, must of course cause an increased accumulation of it in the alimentary canal.

2. So long as the fever continues, but very little, if any, of the particles of mercury are taken into the circulation; but when nature shall, unassisted, have removed the cause of the fever, the high or febrile action of the heart and arteries subsides, and the absorbent system takes on its customary action. Nature finding, to her disappointment and regret, an accumulation of foreign, irritating and poisonous matter in the bowels, orders the absorbents, (whose office it is to clear the system of unnecessary and cumbersome matter,) to take up the globules of mercury, to carry and deliver them to the different secretory and excretory organs for their removal from the system. The mercury, while taking the round of the circulation, comes in contact with the salivary gland, whose peculiar sensibility renders them extremely susceptible of its action. A swelling and inflammation of the glands and adjacent parts takes place; an increased secretion and flow of saliva soon follows; and in this state the patient is said to be laboring under mercurial salivation. But it is to be recollected that previous to the commencement of this state of salivation, the action of the heart and arteries becomes slower and more regular, the skin becomes soft and moist, and other symptoms are present, indicating a restoration of action throughout the system.—The irritation of the mercury upon the glands of the mouth gives rise to more or less of local fever, which sometimes, by sympathy, extends to the whole system, producing what is properly termed the mercurial disease.—[Botanic (Vt.) Advocate.

(To be continued.)

From the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.

QUESTIONS FOR THE REGULARS.

Why have you administered to your patients the same articles as medicine, which are used by the wicked to produce the death of their enemies, and which are used by the farmers to kill rats and crows?

Why have you made use of the same means to cure the sick, that the butcher does to take the lives of animals?

When you are sick yourselves, why do you not use your own medicines, and not resort to "roots and herbs"?

From the Native Physician.

CASE OF FATAL SALIVATION.

Is there one individual in the medical profession that is not aware of the fatal consequences frequently resulting from the use of Mercury. Scarcely can we take up a medical periodical, without being shocked by a detail of instances of its fatal effects; nor are these consequences, the effects of tyros in the profession; neither can they be palliated by the idea of inattention or neglect on the part of the physician. So uncertain are its effects on different individuals, that it is impossible to judge beforehand of the extent of injury—sometimes even terminating in death.

The following extract from a Medical Journal is but one among the many which might be selected:

"A soldier 22 years of age, was admitted into a regimental hospital on the 22nd of February. Half a drachm of mercurial ointment was rubbed in every second day, and a grain and a half of the oxymuriate of mercury being divided into 4 doses, he was ordered to take one dose on alternate days. On the ninth day, having made five frictions and taken the above quantity of oxymuriate, salivation appeared, and the mercury was discontinued. There was profuse salivation; low diet, cooling aperients, gargles and various other means were resorted to but without the least effect in checking the salivation. The tongue became greatly swelled and indurated—the cheeks ulcerated—the gums were destroyed, and the teeth loosened. Deglutition was extremely difficult—and the nights sleepless.—Leeches were applied in succession to the face and neck, and opiates were given with the view of procuring some sleep. But nothing arrested the progress of the spitting, and its devastations on the mouth, tongue, and throat. On the 5th of April, incisions were made into the tongue, with the hope of relieving the swelling of that organ; but little good effect was produced. By the 15th of April the salivation began to diminish, and ceased entirely by the end of the month.—The swelling of the tongue disappeared, and the ulcers of the mouth healed. But the man continued pale and emaciated, complaining of sense of heat in the region of the stomach, and having cough without expectoration. Early in May, expectoration appeared, and was accompanied by diarrhœa. He soon began to throw up purulent matter, and he died of rapid pulmonary consumption on the 14th of May, not quite three months from the commencement of the mercurial treatment.

On dissection, the mouth, and parts contiguous were found perfectly healthy. In the left lung, a large abscess presented itself, full of

fœtid matter a quantity of which was extravasated into the bag of the pleura, on that side.—There was nothing particular in any other part of the body.”

“The above is a melancholy case; but is it to prevent our administering mercury? Two or three drachms of mercurial ointment, and a grain and a half of oxymuriate of mercury in nine days are not quantities of the mineral from which any danger can be apprehended, under ordinary circumstances—and the extraordinary circumstances, that is, the idiosyncrasies of constitution to which mercury may be poisonous, are utterly incognizable, till the mischief is done.”—[Med. Chir. Review.

“Is it to prevent our administering mercury?” says the reviewer. If a substance be capable of producing death, and that in such a manner that we have no means of judging what constitutes that peculiarity which is unable to withstand its fatal influence. If these appeals to our understanding—our love to our fellow men—our duty to our God—be insufficient to deter us from dealing such a deadly poison to our fellow-creatures, we are at a loss to know what should.

How long will the medical fraternity continue infatuated with their panacea—mercury? Is testimony wanting of its injurious effects? Here we have admission of its producing consumption of the lungs, ending rapidly in death. And we are told with the most apparent non-chalance that the constitutions to which it is so poisonous are incognizable till the mischief is done.” Is there no other remedial agent? Has nature provided no other means for the relief of humanity than such as mock our hopes, and in the place of restoring health, too frequently snap the tender cord of life? Is this the boasted skill of science? When a man dies under the treatment of such advisers, his friends have the satisfaction of knowing that his life was entrusted to one privileged to use the most noxious poisons. Could we know the number annually sacrificed to that Protean, Mercury, it would appear incredible.

From the Southern Botanic Medical Journal.

THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

People who have paid little or no attention to the construction of the human body, cannot understand what is meant by an ‘*affection of the nervous system*,’ or ‘*nervous complaints*,’ as they are commonly called. It may not, therefore, be improper to say that the brain is the seat of all sensation, perception and volition; and that from it shoot forth ten pair of nerves, and the spinal marrow. These nerves are a soft, pithy substance, covered with thin white membranes, and like so many small white cords, branch out in

all directions from the brain to all parts of the body. The branches of the nerves are so numerous, and so perfectly extended throughout the system, that you cannot touch the surface of the body with the point of a needle, without irritating one or more of them.

The extreme parts of the nerve not being protected by the sheathing membrane above mentioned, are exposed to the action or external bodies, and are called the sentient or feeling extremes of the nerves. The nervous system being the vital solid of animal bodies, conveys motion from one part of the system to another, so long as it remains uninjured. All its motions give rise to thought, and no thought can be produced without the motion of the nervous system.—The impulse of external bodies on the sentient extremes of the nerves, occasions sensation or perception—and perception gives rise to volition, and that again to muscular motion, which is a contraction of the fibres. The brain is so connected with the nerves as to be fitted for those motions with which sensation and the whole operation of thought are connected.

In the substance called ‘*nerve*’ it is believed there is a subtle invisible fluid, which is called the ‘*nervous fluid*’ which is the sentient moving principle of beings, or the animal soul. As the liver separates the bile, so the brain secretes from the blood the nervous fluid; an ethereal or subtle substance, like electricity in rapidity and energy of its motions. It is emitted from the brain through the nerves to all parts of the body, in channels so diminutively small, that no glass has been able to detect them. It is a subtle, invisible, consistence, and is conveyed from the brain to the muscles like the electric fluid. The place where all the nerves meet is called the common sensorium—where are treasured up all the sensations carried to the brain, and retained, in proportion to the strength and frequency of the impressions. Hence, all insanity, delirium, or disorder of the intellect, arise from disorders or injuries of the brain. In case of hypochondria, delirium, or insanity, there is always an affection of the nervous system, and the effects correspond with the cause, or disorder, in the brain or nerves. But as the invisible fluid which constitutes the sentient principles of life is mysterious in its nature and operations, so are the infinitely various effects which are occasioned by the disorders of the nervous system. Well may we exclaim with the inspired writer, ‘We are fearfully and wonderfully made.’

An Irishman, who was arrested for stealing a gun, got a countryman to swear that he knew the gun ever since it was a pistol, and that it belonged to the prisoner!

From Chamber's Edinburgh Journal.

APPETITE FOR FOOD—HUNGER AND THIRST.

Hunger and thirst are the sensations by which instinct urges all animals to seek the food which is necessary for their support. The symptoms of hunger are a pain at the pit of the stomach, great depression of spirits, bodily weakness, increased sensibility to cold, a disposition to sleep, rapid emaciation; and if food be still withheld, the action of the heart becomes quick and feeble, the respiration short and hurried, and the mind sinks into a state of stupor, or low muttering delirium, amidst which death closes upon the sufferer. The distress arising from excessive thirst is even of a more aggravated description; the mouth and throat become dry and heated, the tongue swells, the flow of saliva diminishes, the eyes become red, the respiration laborious, the circulation hurried, a sense of most painful constriction exists in the throat, the mouth is kept wide open to inhale every breath of air, the body becomes feverish, the mind troubled, and at length mania, terminating in death, supervenes. All animals can endure hunger longer than they can thirst; the symptoms of the latter run on more speedily to a fatal termination, and are to the sufferer utterly intolerable. The inquisitions of Spain and Italy could not devise a more cruel punishment than that of withholding a drop of water from the unhappy creature condemned to die upon the rack; and "*Drink! drink!*" were generally the last words uttered by their dying victims.

It is interesting to ascertain the causes of every phenomenon in the animal economy, and those which give rise to the sensations of hunger and thirst have occasioned much speculation. The cause of hunger has, by one set of physiologists, been attributed to a painful sensation of the nerves of the stomach, produced by the irritation of the gastric juice; by another, to the coats of the stomach rubbing against each other; by another, to the liver dragging upon the diaphragm, or that transverse muscle which divides the chest from the abdomen, and immediately above which the stomach rests. Sir Charles Bell argues that the secretion of the gastric juice requires a provocative which is supplied by the food; and when this is not present, the nerves wanting their wonted stimulus, suffer a sense of desire, which constitutes the pain of hunger. Accustomed, in fact, to this excitement, they acquire an aptitude for it—an orgasm—which, if not duly supplied with its accustomed provocative, experiences uneasiness, and disturbs by sympathy the skin, heart, lungs, and brain; in fact, all the organs of the system. It is quite evident that the primary sensation of hunger

depends upon an irritation of the nerves; and hence any sudden mental emotion suspends the appetite. If any person, even at the most tempting banquet, receive any intelligence of a distressing nature, his appetite is immediately checked, and the previous desire for food is converted almost into loathing.—Even a sense of nausea is often induced. The celebrated Van Helmont, going to dine with a friend, met with an accident, by which he dislocated his ankle; his appetite immediately forsook him, but returned as soon as the bone was set. The suspension of the appetite did not arise from the mere bodily impression, for the appetite was re-established: though the pain continued after the dislocation was reduced. The cause of thirst is more obvious, arising evidently from the extreme dryness of the membrane lining the mouth, gullet, and stomach. Its want of lubricity is such as even to excite inflammation. Hence bleeding, by reducing the inflammatory excitement of the throat, reduces thirst: so also does the warm-bath. When long continued, the watery part of the blood diminishes, and, accordingly, it has been found that thirst is allayed by injecting water into the veins. To appease their thirst sailors at sea often wear wet shirts. Water alone affords by no means the most speedy relief. It should be mixed with some gentle stimulus, as with a little wine or spirits.—Acid drinks also, by acting as stimuli, quickly relieve thirst. To a certain degree, thirst is under the control of habit. Those who indulge in the vicious habit of drinking often, are rendered thirsty by abstaining from their usual portion; but many persons, by habituating themselves only to small quantities of liquids with their meals, seem never to experience the sensation. Dr. Paris had under his care a lady of fifty years of age, who declared to him that she was perfectly unacquainted with the sensation of thirst. Sauvage relates two similar instances that occurred to himself, and Blumenbach quotes many examples of the same description. The sensation of hunger may be appeased by any narcotic substance being introduced into the stomach. Whenever the Indians of Asia and America take a long journey, and apprehend that they will be destitute of provisions, they mix the juice of tobacco with powdered shells, and make the mass into small balls which, when the sensation of hunger occurs, they put into their mouths, retaining them there until they dissolved. A celebrated physician was once asked by a poor parishioner for alms, when he inquired of the petitioner what he had done with his last money, to which the poor man answered, that he had expended his last half-penny in the purchase of roll-tobacco; upon which the doctor, expressing his surprise at such improvidence, was informed

by the poor man that he could subsist longer on tobacco than on bread.—During the trial raised by an insurance office concerning the death of a late nobleman, it appeared from the evidence of several apothecaries in Edinburgh, that many of the poor people in this city are in the habit of taking drams of laudanum for the same purpose. Although the pain of hunger may by such means be for a time relieved, the repetition of so imprudent an act never fails, by destroying the tone of the stomach, to entail the most abject misery on the individual.

The introduction of spirits into the stomach also relieves the pain of hunger. It has been said, on the authority of Polidori, Lord Byron's physician, that entertaining a dread of becoming corpulent, his lordship frequently abstained from food for many days, and in the meantime appeased his hunger by a wafer and a glass of brandy. Mechanical pressure, either internal, or external, also mitigates for a time the cravings of hunger; hence many persons under such circumstances have swallowed sand, sawdust, earth, &c. An instance is related by Dr. Percival, of a madman who was afflicted with a voracious appetite, who, nevertheless, became emaciated and died, and on examining his body, a compacted mass of hay and straw was found in his stomach. It is for this end that the Kam-schatkan swallows quantities of sawdust; and even the inferior animals, to blunt the sense of hunger, adopt the same practice. The manis or pangolin which swallows its food whole, will swallow stones or coals, or any other substance, if it cannot obtain nutriment. Many other animals have recourse to the same expedient; hence, mixed peices of coal, stone, slate, and earth, are often found in the stomach of the ostrich, cassowary, and even in that of the toad. It is the custom of some of the northern Asiatic tribes to relieve the pains of hunger by the pressure of a board placed externally over the region of the stomach, which they lace behind with cords, and tighten according to the lesser or greater uneasiness they experience. In this country a tightened handkerchief or girdle is sometimes had recourse to for the same purpose. It is true that these various expedients may for the time alleviate or suspend the pains of hunger, but they afford only a temporal relief, for the explanation already given of the nature and object of the digestive process, renders it evident that the animal body continually demands the accession of new particles of matter; and if these be withheld by the want of nutritious diet, the waste of the system will exceed the amount of its reparation, and, consequently, rapid emaciation must ensue. Hence the cause of persons who die from starvation wasting so rapidly away.

If the human body be liable to present us with this wretched appearance, from the balance between the waste and repair, of the system being broken by the want of nutritious particles being supplied, it is also liable to present us with the appearance of excessive fatness, arising from an excess of nutritious particles being superadded. In this case, the excess of nutrition is deposited, under the form of fat, in little cells or bags beneath the skin, and between the muscles; and the object of its being deposited in these little cells or bags is to prevent it descending by its own gravity to the depending parts of the body. The water in dropsy, not being so confined gravitates to the extremities; and for this reason the legs of persons of a weakly habit, in whom the watery part of the blood is liable to be effused or to escape, swell at night, that, but the fat confined in a series of little quills, which do not communicate with each other, is retained in its natural place of deposition. The fat is then to be regarded as a reservoir of nutrition; for during abstinence, the body, as it were, preys upon itself, and is supported by the re-absorption of this substance. For this reason we find infants always fatter than adults; the truth is they grow fast and a greater supply of nutritious particles is demanded to increase the bulk of the different textures of which the body is composed. Besides this, infants, from the numerous febrile diseases to which they are liable, are more apt to suffer from repeated attacks of sickness than adults; and during such attacks, food being inadmissible, they derive their support mainly from this provision. It is stated by Dr. Stark, that, during abstinence, the fat which is re-absorbed into the system, for the time being, is more capable of repairing the waste of the body than any food that may be taken. It may be added, that the marrow which exist in the bones appears to be a provision for nutrition similar to that of the fat; hence, in the bones of oxen that have been overdriven, and in those of animals that have died of starvation, no marrow is found.

It may happen, even in the richest towns in Great Britain, that we may meet with some poor creature almost dying of starvation, and in such circumstances it is desirable that every humane person should understand how nourishment should be administered. The stomach having been long empty, and rendered consequently very irritable, will not bear solid food, or any strong liquids; such would excite vomiting, and perhaps delirium. If the pulse be low, a gentle stimulant should first be given; a small teaspoonful of aromatic spirit of ammonia in a glass of water will answer well, and, until the pulse rises, may be repeated at intervals.—The greatest care should be taken to restore also, or sustain by external means, the warmth

of the body; for which purpose hot flannels and gentle friction may be advantageously applied. A little warm broth or beef-tea should then be given every two or three hours; thus the digestive organs will be gradually restored to the exercise of their functions, and then solid nutriment may be given with impunity. At first, however, the liquid or solid aliment should be administered in small quantities, for the stomach and digestive organs, on being re-excited to action, are always very irritable, and may be easily over-excited, in which case delirium and fever may be induced.

In consequence of a very irritable state of the stomach, caused probably by acidity, a preternatural appetite or craving for food often occurs, and person so effected will frequently devour the most indigestible substances. Many instances are recorded of individuals who have sought to devour with avidity earth, cinders, spiders, toads, serpents, bits of wood, hair, soap, candles, paper, &c. Among the blacks in Jamaica, an epidemic disease, consisting of a craving to devour dirt, under the form of clay or loam, has been described by the celebrated Hunter. It is a disease, indeed, which under the term of *Pica*, is noticed in all systems of medicine, and is apt to prevail among the Swiss, the Welsh, and the people of mountainous districts, who are unable, according to their passionate desire, to revisit their native country. A case is related by Dr. Darwin, of a young lady about ten years of age, who devoured the earth out of a flower-pot, and then vomited it up mixed with bits of stone, wood, and even wings of insects. Stones, glass, and even leaden bullets, have been swallowed by persons affected with this disease. In the healthy state of the human body, the appetite for food, however, admits of considerable control; for if the meals be taken at regular and fixed times, the desire for food will always recur at stated intervals. It should be noticed, however, that persons sitting down to eat when very hungry, are apt to overload the stomach before the sensation of hunger is perceivably relieved. This is an error which should be carefully guarded against, as it is apt to cause heartburn, and other distressing maladies. The appetite for food, both solid and liquid, may be so pampered as to rest itself satisfied only by the most dainty and luxurious dishes; and hereby, it is obvious that two very grievous evils are induced. First, the stomach like a spoiled child constantly indulged with such luxuries, becomes more urgent in its demand for the repetition of the indulgence; it acquires an aptitude and desire for highly dressed food, which if not gratified gives rise to painful sensations; in fact, the stomach, having been accustomed to be overstimulated, sinks, when the excitement is with-

held, into a relaxed or torpid state and the ability to perform its natural functions becomes sensibly impaired. Second, although an evil of less magnitude to the sufferer, the habit of pampering the appetite, whereby that which was once a luxury becomes converted into a necessity, must render him liable to be placed in situations where his epicurean desires cannot be gratified, in which case he must suffer inconvenience himself, and be an annoyance to the other persons in society. Let the appetite for food, therefore, like all the other appetites or passions which are incident to humanity, be duly regulated, let parents in particular, remember that the plainer the food is to which they accustom their children, the better; health, happiness, and serenity of mind, are not the offsprings of luxury but of those simple, regular, and religious habits, which should assiduously be cultivated in early life.

LONG YEARS HAVE PASSED.—BY MOORE.

Long years have passed, old friend, since we
First met in life's young day;
And friends long loved by thee and me
Since then have dropped away;
But enough remain to cheer us on,
And sweeten, when thus we're met,
The glass we fill to the many gone,
And the few who're left us yet.

Our locks, old friend, now thinly grow,
And some hang white and chill;
While some, like flowers 'mid autumn's snow,
Retain youth's color still.
And so, in our hearts, though one by one,
Youth's sunny hopes have set,
Thank Heaven, not all their light is gone—
We've something to cheer us yet.

Then here's to thee, old friend, and long
May thou and I thus meet,
To brighten still with wine and song
This short life, ere it fleet;
And still, as death comes stealing on,
Let's never, old friend, forget,
E'en while we sigh o'er blessings gone,
How many are left us yet.

BOTANY.

We do not study this beautiful science sufficiently. The plants are full of life like ourselves, and send here to add to the pleasures of our existence. When every secret virtue shall be known in the great family of herbs, there will doubtless be found among them some assuager of every grief that flesh is heir to. The plants have so many points of resemblance to our own structure, that we cannot help contemplating them with the kindest affection. They have their nervous filaments, and their circulating fluid, that nourishes them as the blood does our bodies. They are reproduced and keep up undying myriads of successors, for our

use. Perhaps the most interesting feature connected with the support of the plant is to be found in the beautiful arrangement of nature, that feeds the plant upon air deleterious to animal life, while the same plant kindly gives out pure oxygen gas, which unites with the nitrogen that we respire, thus keeping up the equilibrium, and preserving the salubrity of the atmosphere at every breath.—Ingenhouz says a sprig of mint corked up with a small portion of foul air, if placed in the light, renders it again capable of sustaining life. The plant purifies what the animal had poisoned.

The subject of the nutrition of vegetables is full of the most curious and interesting research, from the absorption of the food from the earth and atmosphere, through the radicles and leaves, to the perfection of the sap, and the formation of its varied products. We give the following extract, as it has reference to an hypothesis of a French philosopher, which has been applied to the explanation of animal as well as of vegetable physiology.

“The cause of the ascent of sap is not well ascertained. Some have ascribed it to the influence of heat, others to capillary attraction. It seems to depend upon some principle not connected with the vital properties of plants; it has been found that if a root full of moisture be surrounded with very dry earth, the fluid will pass from the root into the latter; and the known effects of heat would seem to corroborate this opinion. It has been ascribed to a vital irritability in the vessels, to the influence of electricity, and by M. Dutrochet to *Endosmose*. This celebrated physiologist found that mucilaginous fluids have the property of overcoming the power of gravity, and ascending in small tubes with a force capable even of overcoming the pressure of the atmosphere, when in contact with membrane or other organized tissue closing the bottom of the tube; the fluid gradually works its way through the membrane or other tissue, and ascends to a great height in the tube. To this phenomenon he gave the name of *Endosmose*, and applied it to the explanation of the ascent of the sap vegetables.

The sap, when it arrives at the leaves, is deprived of its watery part by exhalation or evaporation, this being dissolved in the atmosphere when it comes into contact with it. This takes place principally under the influence of light and heat. Hot and dry weather greatly facilitates this operation, as Hales ascertained by experiments on the sunflower, (*Helianthus Annus*), which was found in such weather to transpire thirty ounces daily, being one half more than its average quantity. The watery part of the sap, having performed its office of dissolving the solid matter necessary for the nutrition of the plant, thus rendering it fit to be absorbed by the spongioles, is discharged as of no further use.”—[Reid's Botany.]

CHANGE.—A lady who was very modest and submissive before marriage, was observed by a friend to use her tongue pretty freely after. He remarked—“There was a time when I almost imagined she had no tongue.” “Yes,” sighed the husband, but it is *very long since!*”

PERILOUS SITUATION.—Dr. Judd, of Honolulu, who accompanied the scientific corps of the exploring squadron on their excursions to Hawaii, had a most wonderful escape from an awful death. He had descended into the crater of Kilauea, to obtain some specimens of the liquid lava. Not succeeding in procuring any at the Great Lake (as it is called) he approached one of the smaller ones, or chimneys, and descended a few feet into it. While gathering specimens the lake suddenly became active and discharged a jet of lava in the air far above his head, but which most fortunately fell in the opposite direction from him. He then commenced making his way out before another should follow, but the ascent was far more difficult than the descent. He became alarmed and called on five natives who had accompanied him to the spot for assistance. The heat had become so great that they were frightened and retreated, with the exception of one man, who threw himself flat upon the bank and reached over his right hand, enabling the doctor to reach the top. Before he reached the brink his clothes were burnt by the hot air, and he would have been scalded had he not been protected by woollen garments. The native in stooping over had his face and hands blistered. They both had barely time to leave the spot, when the lake filled up and poured out a stream of liquid lava.—[Polynesian.]

THE TATTLER.—There is not a being that moves on the surface of the habitable globe, more degraded or more contemptible than a tattler. Vicious principles, want of honesty, servile meanness, despicable insidiousness, form his character. Has he wit? In attempting to display it, he makes himself a fool. Has he friends? By unhesitatingly disclosing their secrets, he will make them his most bitter enemies. By telling all he knows, he will soon discover to the world that he knows but little. Does he envy an individual? His tongue, fruitful with falsehood, defames his character. Does he covet the favor of any one? He attempts to gain it by slandering others. His approach is feared—his person hated—his company unsought—and his sentiments despised, as emanating from a heart fruitful with guile, teeming with iniquity, loaded with envy, malice and revenge. Are there any parents who wish a son of this description? Let them encourage him in the beginning of his career: listen to every tale he tells—declaim in his presence against the subject of it—condemn the slandered unheard—and if their desires are not gratified, it will prove an exception in the common course of nature.

Envy always outlives the felicity of its object.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, AUGUST 15, 1841.

THE MANUAL.—A NEW VOLUME.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the exertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson; No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

From the Boston True Thomsonian.

Dr. Thomson * * * has condemned his own book, saying it was entirely worthless, and the members of the Maine Convention were of the same opinion. It is important that the public should be apprised of the following facts, in order to the formation of a correct judgment: Dr. Cyrus Thomson, who presented his father's work to the Convention for examination, acknowledged that the decision of the Convention was a *just* one—that he could write a *better* book himself—that it was too full of technicalities to be of *any* advantage to the people—said he would go home and persuade his father not to publish it—and induce him, if possible, to publish a new edition of the old Guide and sell it at a reduced price.

We are requested by Dr. Thomson, to state that so much of the above paragraph as relates to himself is false, wholly and totally false; that he never condemned his own book, nor the one now in course of publication, under the direction of his son, at Albany. In June last, Dr. Thomson went to Albany, to inspect the work, and see how it pro-

gressed; after examining the book as far as had been printed—Dr. Cyrus Thomson, the man referred to above, assisting him—he was well satisfied that even in its then unfinished form, it would be useful to Thomsonians; and when his own discoveries, experience, theory, mode of practice, and recipes should be added, that it would be an invaluable book—one that he would be willing to publish to the world. So highly pleased was he with the work, that he then paid a *thousand* dollars, to advance its publication as much as possible. We would ask any candid man, if a dissatisfied man would have acted thus? Does it look like condemning the work?

As to what is said above, respecting Dr. Cyrus Thomson, it appears so absurd that we do not deem it worthy of denial. He has rendered much assistance to facilitate the work, and it is nonsense to say that he does not approve of it.

The *True* Thomsonian effects a wonder at Dr. Lapham's remarks, which we published in No. 17 of the Manual, relative to the books. Dr. L. is a man capable of judging what a Thomsonian Botanical work should be—he knows if it be wanting in quality; and when he has two before him, one immensely more valuable than the other, he has the candor to acknowledge it; notwithstanding there may have been hard feelings and misunderstandings existing between himself and the man who publishes the best book. He gave his opinion without fear and without favor.

"The Maine Convention," says the *True* Thomsonian, "pronounced Mr. Mattson's book superior to Dr. Thomson's." This they had pledged themselves to do a year ago. But they had not time to examine either of the works.

They were not competent judges of Thomson's work, even of its then unfinished state, of only 472 pages. Why so? may be asked. Because, a year previous, they advised Mr. Mattson to go on with his book, and agreed to sustain him in so doing. This rendered them incompetent judges of either works. They had pledged themselves to go for the one, even before they knew what it would be; and in that pledge they fully bound themselves to go against the other. Can such men be called candid? Are they capable of judging of the merits of either of the books, supposing they had time, and both books were completed, and before them? Would they not do as they had pledged themselves to do—sustain Mr. Mattson's? As Mr. Mattson has spent much time and money, in the preparing and publishing of his work, we hope he may be compensated for it; but, as far as we have examined it, we do not think it a good

Thomsonian guide; not so good as some other publications we have seen, as far as its Thomsonism goes. Older and abler judges than ourselves have seen it—men of candor—and say it has many faults, and is calculated to mislead a young practitioner. We advise the public, who want to supply themselves with works, to examine it—and if they find it to suit their wants, purchase it. But we would have them remember it is no more Thomsonian than *Howard's* or *Smith's*; but, for all that, it may contain information that to them may be useful.

Dr. Thomson's book will be soon laid before the public; of its merits they will be the judges; but as his "Guide to Health" has given such great satisfaction, and been productive of so much good to mankind, we hesitate not to say, it will be a useful and highly valuable work. And as the book and medicines of Samuel Thomson have immortalized his name, so will his efforts to leave something still more perfect to posterity, place upon his brow another laurel, which the efforts of his foes, and the arts of all former fawning sycophants, will in vain strive to tear from him.

The full length portrait of Dr. Samuel Thomson, now being painted at Troy, for the New York State Thomsonian Medical Society, we understand, will be finished by October next. Dr. Mattocks of Troy, writes to the Editor of the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian that, as far as has been completed, it is as "natural as life." This painting is to cost \$300, and to be paid by subscriptions from Thomsonians. Those who feel disposed to contribute for it can forward their money to Dr. T. Lapham, of Poughkeepsie, or Dr. J. Thomson of Albany, who are authorized by the Society to receive such money.

We have just received a signature of Dr. Samuel Thomson's New Work, as edited by himself and his son, Dr. John Thomson, by which we are apprised that the whole work is ready for delivery. It will no doubt be very gratifying and profitable to all the friends of the Thomsonian System, to be furnished with this last best touch of its venerable and respected founder. The sheet before us being on Anatomy, does not give us that view of the work which would qualify us for the expression of a just opinion of its merits, except that the paper and press-work are good. But no recommendation is needed. Dr. Thomson's sanction is enough.

Along with it came the best engraving of the Doctor that we have seen. It represents the old gentleman, most appropriately, with a sprig of lobelia in one hand, and a cluster of pepper pods in the other. It will form the frontispiece of the book.—[Botanico-Med. Recorder, Columbus, O.]

EFFECTS OF MONGRELISM.

A gentleman named *Pierce*, is at Dr. Thomson's Infirmary, in this city, suffering severely the effects of *quackery* in its worst form; having taken a large portion of *finely pulverized lobelia*, to which had been added *tartrite of antimony*! and this mixture was given him by a person who professes to be a pure THOMSONIAN!! The sufferer brought with him to the Infirmary a sample of the stuff which he had bought for *pure Thomsonia emetica*, of one of those pure people who declare themselves "independent of Dr. Thomson, and yet *strictly Thomsonian*. It can be seen, as can also the gentleman who is laboring under its effects, at the Infirmary. This *emetica* was prepared and given, we are told, by a person who has been loud in his denunciations of Dr. Thomson, and it behooves people to be on the look-out for such *honest folks*; we always distrust such ones, for we think their sole object in view, is *money*, and fraud and deception the means they use to get it. They are people of one kidney, stamp, and feather. Therefore, of those people who are striving so hard to defame Dr. Thomson, we say *beware!*—[Manual, July 15.]

We are requested by Dr. Tewksbury, of Concord, Mass., to say that the preceding paragraph from the Manual was pointed out to him by Mr. Pierce, who observed that it had particular reference to himself, and to his treatment of Mr. Pierce's case; and that it is utterly destitute of the least foundation in truth.

He hopes that, in due time, the satellites of Dr. Thomson will receive light enough from the great fountain, to save themselves the mortification of again exposing their ignorance, in their inability to distinguish *super carbonate of soda* from *tartrite of antimony*. Mr. Pierce also stated to him that he had taken five courses of medicine at No. 40, with *little or no benefit*.—[Boston True Thomsonian.]

Dr. Tewksbury may apply our article to himself, if he like, and may cry out "*ignorance!*" but still it will not invalidate the truth, or prevent the pernicious effects of the noxious compound. The sample brought to the Infirmary by Mr. Pierce, was examined by a member of the regular medical faculty, who has been in the practise of administering *tartrite of antimony* for thirty years, and after tasting it, he unhesitatingly pronounced it as such.

A few days since we were shown by a lady some pulverized lobelia seed which had every appearance of being mixed with the same pernicious stuff—be it what it may. She said she purchased it of a Dr. Tewksbury, and grew worse after taking some of it. A doctor in this city says he thinks that it is a great *improvement* on Dr. Thomson's system to add *tartrite of antimony*, or *sulphate of zinc*, to lobelia—it operates so much quicker, and saves time in administering.

Mr. Pierce was told when he first came to the Infirmary, that his case was so bad that it would take a long time to cure him: but it is sufficient to add, that, although he was badly affected by the *improved lobelia*, yet he *did* receive help by using Dr. Thomson's medicines.

“THE GOOD SAMARITAN: Or, the Sick man's Friend, containing the Botanic Medical practice necessary for the removal of all cureable forms of disease, by Dr. Wm. Johnson, of Embreville Chester county, Pa.”—The above little work has been forwarded to us by the author. It contains much excellent information, a good part of which is Thomsonian. The price is low enough to enable any person, no matter of how humble means, to obtain it, and its directions if followed, will be of some benefit to them. We should recommend this work in preference to many of the great medical books now in existence, with the exception of the invaluable “Guide to Health,” by Dr. S. Thomson.

From the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.

We are informed that the author of the following communication took an active part in the cause of medical revolution nearly thirty years ago. He ventured to take the “MONSTER” (prejudice) by the horns, when Thomsonism was in its infancy; and although a perilous undertaking at that time, he is still alive, and apparently none the worse for the conflict, notwithstanding the thunder-bolts of persecution were frequently hurled at him with malicious intent.

DOCT. THOMSON vs. DOCT. MATTSON.

DR. LAPHAM:—Permit me to introduce myself to you as a resident of the town of Calais, in the State of Maine. I am the Mr. Whitney that is spoken of in Doct. Thomson's Narrative, published in Boston in 1835, page 119, as being sick at his office in Eastport in 1812, at the time war was declared with England. I purchased a Right of Doct. Thomson at Eastport, in June 1812, soon after he obtained his first patent: since which time I have taken great interest in his system of practice, and have examined almost every thing that has been published on the subject, with a desire to gain information.

I am now on my way to the western part of the State of Pennsylvania, and being in Albany I called on Doct. J. Thomson to see the new book so much talked of, 600 pages of which are now through the press, having seen Doct. Mattson's while in Boston. I have in my day read many medical works, among which are Doct. Buchan's, the Edinburgh Practice, and several works published in the United States, and I think I can say with confidence that Doct. Thomson's book, in its present unfinished state has distanced them all. It is decidedly the best arranged, and embraces more interesting and important matter than all of them put together; and I think it is the most comprehensive and useful work I have ever seen upon the subject of medicine.

Last week I was in Boston, and stopped at Doct. Chapman's, No. 1, Portland street, where I remained four days; and while there I had the pleasure of reviewing Doct. Mattson's new book. I am happy to see competition in this business between him and Doct. Thomson; but he has

found a hard competitor in Doct. T., who has, thus far vastly exceeded him in his work in point of arrangement and interesting and useful matter. And if Doct. Thomson carries out the principle as he has commenced it, of crowding such vast quantities of useful matter into so narrow a compass to the end of the work, I think he may well defy all competition in the particular department in which he is engaged: “*A mountain of matter in a drop of words.*” Respectfully Yours,

ABEL WHITNEY.

Albany, July 22, 1841.

From the same.

“MATTSON'S AMERICAN VEGETABLE PRACTICE.”

Boston: D. L. Hale, Publisher.—pp. 706.

This is the title of a work long since announced in course of publication; it has been published some weeks, though we have been unable to procure a copy other than by the accidental chance of borrowing one.

The present is an era in the Thomsonian Vegetable Practice. Heretofore we have been literally without any elementary works on our system of practice, other than the Guide of Dr. Thomson and two works on Midwifery by two of our western physicians: hence we are ridiculed as the physicians of one book, and grossly ignorant of all scientific distinctions in the healing art. But times are changing, and a few weeks ago we were enabled to say, from examinations of the progressing publications of two medical works detailing our system regularly and scientifically, that our reproach was being wiped off. Dr. Samuel Thomson and Dr. Morris Mattson were each preparing works illustrative of the science of our system, which would, at least begin to give us a character and compel an attention towards us heretofore unknown. The work of Doct. Thomson is not yet published, but is in a forward state; already five hundred pages octavo are out of press, and it is fast progressing to a completion. We shall here say nothing in regard to Dr. T.'s book; when it shall be laid before the public, we propose for it a fair examination.

The work before us is a regular treatise on the various branches of medical science, included under the heads of Anatomy, Vegetable Materia Medica or Botanic Remedies, the Practice of Medicine, and Midwifery. With the book, as a whole, we are well pleased; and are glad to see so much achieved towards raising our profession from the obloquy into which it has fallen. Yet there seems a characteristic wanting about it; it seems vague and indefinite. To what school of practice does it belong? It scouts the old school practice entirely, yet claims affinity to none. The book often refers to “the reformed practice,” but the “reformed practice” is nowhere explained as such. Yet most of its doctrines and principles are identical with those of the Thomsonian system of medicine; and we would have been glad, if the author intended his book to be such, that he would have told us so, and given credit to whom it is due.

We regretted to find in the introduction an attack on the phraseology of the author of the New

Guide, and throughout the book sneers at Dr. Thomson. If Dr. Mattson intended his book as a Thomsonian work, why did he not announce it, that the public could understand it. If he does not intend it as such, why does he step out of his way to bespatter the author of that system? What has he to do with Dr. T., or what do the public care for his contentions with the Doctor?

It really seems to us that if he could not christen his offspring after Thomson, he might at least have let him alone.

Yet he undertakes to assert positively all that our enemies have so constantly asserted before, that "the discoveries of Dr. T. seem to have been extremely limited." He takes from him uncere- moniously the credit of having discovered the medicinal virtues of lobelia, the utility of the vapor bath, and "the course of medicine." "Indeed," says he, "there is scarcely a plant mentioned by Dr. Thomson in his Guide which has not been familiar to the people of N. E. for at least a century!" And he promises to fortify these positions in "another volume."

Again, we ask, why this attack, what prompts such thrusts, and what is their utility?

Under the head of Lobelia Inflata, Dr. Mattson endeavors to prove that the Penobscot Indians formerly used it as an emetic, and would leave us to infer that thence Dr. T. derived his knowledge of its use: yet in his introduction he says, "far be it from me to pluck a single laurel from his brow." If he has not effectually plucked the lobelia from his brow, it is not because he does not evince a disposition to do it if he could. We can involve any fact of ancient date in doubt; the time of the discovery of this continent is even now disputed; the discovery of the power of steam is warmly contested, and in the same category is included the great question, whether Dr. T., or the Penobscot Indians, or any other human being first discovered the medicinal properties of lobelia. For ourselves, we are settled on that point, and are not anxious to contend it. We are convinced that it is the most efficacious medicine ever discovered; and we further know that the combined hosts of "diplommatized physicians" and Dr. Morris Mattson are each striving to outdo the other in plucking the lobelia from the brow of the venerable founder of our system of medical practice. If Dr. Mattson has any personal grievances with Dr. Thomson, we would say, settle them between yourselves, introduce not your enmity into your book.

In regard to the book generally, otherwise than we have above spoken, we are pleased with it; it is exceedingly well got up in a large octavo volume, and the Botanical part splendidly illustrated with colored engravings of the plants; the subject of Anatomy is treated of judiciously, and illustrated with engravings. In regard to the practical part, so far as a short cursory glance at it will permit us to judge, we think it generally correct; and bating our objections, we could recommend it as a good medical work, worthy a place in the library of every Thomsonian family in general and of our practitioners in particular. The price is \$7 per copy.

L.

College Hill, July, 1841.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

ELECTRIC FLUID.

(Concluded.)

Now it is well known that mineral medicines are of the *extreme narcotic*; that if the stomach does not act it is a case; that the system of depletion in bleeding, drastic purges, blistering; depriving of nourishment, confining to beds filled with electric affluvia, and in an isolated horizontal position in itself destructive of health; is of itself enough to destroy the life of one out of three subjected to the regimen in perfect health. It is well known that the most alarming and astounding facts under the most unexceptionable authority are staring them in the face.

Mr. Jefferson once said he believed that the practice is destroying more than the sword. Some of their most talented professors on retiring declare that it "is problematical whether more are not killed than cured." It is solemnly averred, in a letter written to the professional gentlemen who attended Washington, by one who stood the highest in his profession, that "he could not but have died under it—that the most vigorous young man would have expired—that he died without a struggle, because having lost in twelve hours 84 ounces of blood he had *no strength to struggle*." One third of the skin destroyed is death—thousands have been wrapped in blisters; all the important muscles of the limbs, the thorax, breast, head, at the same time blistered! Gentlemen of large practice, popular, money making physicians, have been unable to attend their patients, the friends spell-bound, the crisis passed and the extra prescription in thousands of instances followed a hopeless relapse and death. The gold and diamond of life have been thrown into centres of electric fusion! This is not a figurative, but a literal expression. It is a plain, a demonstrable, but awful truth. The distinguished Professor Hare, in his compound deflagrator, did not more completely isolate the lime which in consuming "displayed a brilliancy in purple light at which the eye could merely glance, than have the medical profession their patients. We do not say that they are morally guilty. They do not know. All their education, habits, professional pride, dignity, success, blinds them to fact. Chemists do *not know*. Prof. H. was ignorant that the causes of the intensity and color of the light were *all before him*. Lime had been brought to that degree as an electrolyde and was so completely isolated, that it presented the degree of intensity consumed in

lightning; and color an electric effect that it did, diamonds would have been more intense and white, gold, and yellow.

On the late meeting of the American Philosophical Society they knew nothing of the nature of the electric fluid as originated, quiescent and radiant. It is produced by all combustion—centres in water—ignited metal a non conductor—becomes radiant as soon as a vacuum is formed after the water is completely changed. May be by atmospheric change which often adds negatively half to pressure in a few moments—always will after radiation is excited, and excited it ever will be, when for want of supply the quantum becomes heated to the decomposing point, at the loss of which from æriform it became solid; in contact with fire the oxygen and hydrogen consume, become lightning and produce the tremendous effect. Now this is in point. It is the same with the electric fusion of life. The patient is isolated. The electric fluid is all the time received by the lungs and shot through the blood, heart and arteries into the system. The safety valve is closed by withholding food and filling the stomach with what concentrates the electric fluid, or rather water is not supplied and fuel is added! Not one solitary system can make a deposit—the general system throws off only as the steamboat ashes. What is the consequence? general, deepening sickness and disease, dreadful pains in the bones, head, reins, viscera; *a burning consuming fever* and four cases out of five, death; that is, electric fusion. The determination is inward! It is slower but as much an electric death as spontaneous combustion! This gives a true but awful picture. You enter, my dear sir, upon the subject; you comprehend it fully. The terms heat and cold, the one an effect the other a negative, may be wisely supplied by a *restoring and destroying the electric balance*. A case—thus circumstanced the patient is bled, has a portion of sublimated mercury administered and a blister applied to the seat of pain; the prescription with little variation is pursued a fortnight—result death. The Thomsonian system, when relief can be administered *effects* it, and this is what the case requires. I should through the same organ, be pleased to receive your opinion. I am pleased with my discoveries. They rest upon an imperishable foundation; and, while they will ultimately give me a standing in the scientific world, which may be pleasing to my posterity, they will place geological science, chemistry, natural philosophy, and materia medica, upon true ground, by discovering the alone universal solvent and reformer, and the infinite, variety yet

unchanging necessity which determines its operations. As to yourself, and cause, you are safe. In pure benevolence you have commenced and effected one of the most important changes which has ever taken place in the medical world. You fortunately commenced at a time in which science with an omnipotent eye and arm can look down, and break down, all opposition to truth. But you must be content to be *made immortal*—personal elevation in the triumph of that truth and science you have so ably vindicated—the cause you have espoused—the system *you originated*.

Obediently,

JAMES S. OLCOTT.

To DR. SAMUEL THOMSON.

HOW TO CURE A BAD COUGH.

MR. EDITOR:—Allow me, if you please, the opportunity of prescribing a remedy for this alarming, but too common, malady. I have no doubt that all Thomsonians are already apprised of it; but as it may possibly catch the attention of others, who may be induced to make a trial of it, and thereby be benefitted, its publication may subserve the cause of humanity:—

Take two tea-spoons full of Composition, one of Cayenne, and one of Slippery Elm—mix them together in a cup of warm water, and add about two tea-spoons full of sugar, by way of sweetening. Drink it all down, and go to bed. Repeat the operation for four or five nights, and the cough will be removed.

I speak from the best proof—EXPERIENCE. I was troubled with a very bad cough of several weeks' duration; and tried numerous remedies for its cure—Pease's celebrated Cough Candy, among the rest—but all to no purpose. In this discouraging condition, and almost despairing of obtaining any relief, a Thomsonian friend suggested the dose above mentioned. I was considerably sceptical about trying "hot crop"; but, however, as I was resolved to leave nothing unperformed that the kindness of others recommended, I tried the *burning draught* for four nights; and to my agreeable surprise, the cough was not only entirely removed, but also the usual accompaniments, hoarseness and sore throat. It was a *scorching* medicine, I must confess; but then there is this consolation in it—it is cheap, safe, and effectual, and produces, after the smarting has ceased, a very invigorating influence throughout the entire system.

Reader! if you are suffering under that troublesome and alarming complaint—a *confirmed cough*—I would earnestly recommend to you a trial of the

above simple remedy. It is worth all the quack nostrums that "regular" ingenuity ever invented to gull the credulous and unsuspecting. It can be obtained at No. 40, Salem street. TRUTH.
Boston, June 3d, 1841.

For the Manual.

INTERESTING PHILOSOPHICAL FACTS.

"Sound travels at the rate of 1142 feet per second in air; 4980 in water; 11090 in cast iron; 17000 in steel; 18000 in glass; and on an average 3168 in wood."—[N. Y. Tribune.

Why? Because percussion effects or makes radiant the electric fluid, and it moves with a velocity in proportion to the more or less perfect vacuum through which it passes. It is true on inspection, in reason, and as a demonstrable truth. In the first instance we see that it is so. Water is known to be a far better conductor of the electric fluid than air; cast iron and steel when *cold* than water or wood. The only difficulty is in glass a non conductor and wood varying in its conductibility. But we are to recollect that glass has become in annealing saturated with radiant electricity, and that it is the condensed and also circulating electric fluid which receives percussion, and that in the wood, as an imperfect vacuum, this is the effect of atmospheric electrolygenation. That reason teaches that it should be so, is abundantly manifest, from the fact that, while there is no other assignable cause, the perfection of this should be followed by the result. It is demonstrable, in the only way such truth should be demonstrated by experiment. The consumption of a single pound of these conducting materia, in an *entirely isolated position*, will, by intensity and color, indicate the electric state to have been in the same proportion as was their perfectibility in the conveyance of sound. The reason that sound is so faint, thrown against the air, is because of a rush of radiant electricity towards a vacuum in the direction of the wind. "The pressure of the atmosphere upon every square foot of ground, is 2160 lbs. An ordinary sized man, supposing his surface to be 14 square feet, sustains a pressure of 30,240 lbs." This is all fudge. It is like physicians formerly affirming that "the heart exerted at every pulsation 767,000 lbs pressure." The fact is, a man sustains nothing more than his weight; and this is the difference between the current of the electric fluid centering in the earth, and of that escaping from the earth. This causes the barometrical scale, and its variations the barometrical oscillations. All things, weighed near the surface, of course would be effected, but in a trifling manner; while the whole column of air varying in height would be. It is the

same in regard to himself effecting, making the specific difference between the attraction of cohesion and electric evulsion. If he were a perfect vacuum—Ah! "if"—it is absurd to hear sensible men thus peurile and absurd. The lungs, heart and arterial system exert of themselves no power, because they are only the *medium* and instantly receive as much as they impart. It is different with the fingers, hand, arm, brain. Here the power is exerted, and concentration, effort, exhaustion and fatigue follow. It is the same in the lever power as with the former. It is almost "a thing of life," and yet we see nothing but *the so it is*. The application of mathematical language gives nothing more. It is radiant electricity connected with the materia. Try it. $800=w$; $20=lever$ $2=p=822$ lbs. It is so adjusted that 2 holds 800 in equilibrium. Here gravity is 1644 and $1=400$. Why? Not simply because it is, but because the electric fluid radiates in one degree of radiation equally in all kinds of matter, and throughout universal space according to the square of the distance and quantity of matter. We simply adjust the materia so that it has to fix a centre and operate and the result follows. The moon weighs up the earth, and the earth in the invisible electric balance weighs no more than the moon; and yet the change of centre makes a pound of the moon counterpoise thousands at the earth. Weight is relative; therefore an effect, and that effect radiated electricity. Bring this principle to bear upon this system, the universe, and we have the alone, material, and essential cause of circular, electric, perpetual motion. In applying it to the tides all is clear. The earth becomes a principle centre of radiation, and these centres correspond with effects, facts, realities. On the old theory of attraction, according to the quantity of matter and square of distance directly and inversely, the tides could never be accounted for, because we have not only effects out of the line of supposed action, but directly the reverse. Let the sun= 1 , the moon= 6 , and the earth= 0 . At conjunction we ought to have 7 , and at opposition 5 ; but at conjunction we have but 6 , and at opposition 8 ! Again the full tides ought to be *at* the time, because it is ever so, but we have the effect fifty six hours after the causality has operated. And, once more; the double tide has in no way been accounted for; because of conjunction the sun, earth and moon, acting in a direct line forbid it. *This is the true theory*. The electric fluid radiates according to the square of the distance and quantity of matter. The moon is an exelectric as regards the earth, and makes an immense demand upon it. Hence the coldness and non-electric state of moonlight, and hence she ever turns the same


pole to the earth. The light received from the sun, or rather electric fluid, becomes visible in contact with the atmosphere and that of the moon. When in conjunction the moon is in part supplied by the sun, and makes a less demand upon the earth; hence we have 6 instead of 7; in opposition she makes her full demand, and we have the radiation from the sun and earth ultimately centreing in her, hence 8. Opposite to this point, as the circulation of the electric fluid is one eternal gyration, and as radiant electricity makes specifically light, we have a correlative tide. They happen some time afterwards because the centre of these three concentric circles, as they change the electric balance, leaves these eternal oscillatory effects. The long extended swellings of the ocean in calm weather result from the variable electric state of the earth and atmosphere.

J. S. OLCOTT.

ANTIDOTES FOR POISON. When poison has been swallowed, ascertain from the patient what the nature of the poison is. If mineral, that is, either corrosive sublimate or arsenic, give a tea-spoon full of sulphur, or a tea spoon full of pearl ash or a wine glass of soap suds, afterwards give a tea spoon full of antimonial wine, and a plenty of warm water.

If vegetable, or oil of vitriol, aquafortis, or oxalic acid, give pearl ash, or chalk, or magnesia, or soap suds in plenty of warm water, with a desert spoonful of antimonial wine, or a scruple of simple powder of ippecacuanha. If laudanum, give a tea-spoon full of domestic mustard, and keep the patient walking. If carbonic acid, or fumes of charcoal—open air, keep the body cool; medical aid is required.—[Ex. paper.]

Antimonial Wines! doctor like, give one poison to drive out another; and if you burn your fingers, put them in boiling hot water to take out the fire. That is good mineral practice. We say, when you ascertain that you have taken *poison*, no matter whether it be Doctor-given or taken by accident, get a quantity of Thomsonia Emetica, and throw it up; and let the "*medical aid*," alias "*Medical Doctor*," stay at home, and there is no danger but what you will recover, a great deal quicker, than you will if you send for him.

 The annual meeting of the Vermont State Thomsonian Medical Society will be held at Woodstock, on the second Tuesday of September next. All friendly to the Thomsonian cause are invited to attend.

DEATH OF MADAM BOIVIN.—The foreign journals announce the death of Madam Boivin, well known as a successful writer and practitioner of midwifery. She was a doctor in medicine, for many years Superintendent of the Maternite at Paris, and member of most of the learned societies in Europe.

DEATH CAUSED BY A WORM.—A man died on one of the flat-boats on the New Orleans Levee, on the 6th ult., of a disease which baffled his physician. A post mortem examination took place, and, upon examining his brain, it was discovered that an insect about an inch long, known by the name of a centipede, or hundred legs, had crawled into his ear, causing thereby a most excruciating death.

SINGULAR FREAK OF THE ELECTRIC FLUID.—The Greenfield Mercury states, that a Mrs. Dunklee, of Montague, on Sunday, 25th ult., had *one of her teeth knocked out by lightning!* Although she was knocked down by the shock, she was not otherwise injured.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

MASSACHUSETTS.

N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

Acton, Robert Chaffin

Ashburnham, Amos S Davis

Amesbury, Andrew Howarth

Ashby, F A Kendall

Andover, John Harding

Ashby, Thomas Gibson

Colerain, O J Martin, C W Shattuck, & R Dew

Chesterfield, Amos Bisby, and V. Nichols

Danvers, Amos Trask

" Joseph Shaw Jr

" South Parish, James Worcester

Essex, Eli F Burnham

Eastham, Scotter Cobb

Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde

" M. O. Bradford

" Isaac Wood, Jr.

Fitchburg, John Gibbs

Gardner, S C Phinney

Gloucester, Samuel Friend, Gideon Lane
and Geo Saville

Harvard, J. Hosmer, and P. F. Osgood

Leveret, Myron Ashley

Lowell, Aaron P. Holt.

Lynn, Perkins H. Dow, and Theophilus N Breed

Lunenburg, Waldo Whitney

Milford, S Sumner

Munson, Cyrus Day

Munroe, Maturin Ballou

North Danvers, E. B. Putnam.

North Bridgewater, Nahum J Smith

North Reading, Eben'r Eaton

" Thomas Abbot

North Andover, L. T. Presson

New Bedford, Prince Weeks, and G. Nye

Newburyport, G W Goodwin, and J Blood

Orleans, Vickery Sparrow

Plymouth, Samuel Barnes, and E. Macomber

Reading, N K J Vinal

South Andover, Jacob Jenkins

Shelburne, Rufus Furbush

Shelburne Falls, E. A. Rankin

Sandwich, Calvin Fisher

Salem, R W Merrill

" David E. Sauders

Springfield, Sirguy Noble

Sturbridge, D Mason, and Wm H Rice

Stoughton, Luther Belcher

Sunderland, Eli C. Marsh

Sudbury, Nahum Thomson
 Templeton, Joshua Hosmer
 Walpole, Williard Lewis
 Waltham, J Shepley
 Woburn, Moses H. Pierce
 Worcester, Franklin Barnard

MAINE.

Belfast, Daniel Sylvester
 Camden, Thomas Annis
 East Thomaston, Walter E. Tolman
 Eastport, John Shackford
 Frankfort, George Kimball
 Kennebunk, E. Wormwood
 Lincolnville Centre, Francis Fletcher
 Machias, Wm. Smith
 Mechisses, Jeremiah Foster.
 Norway, Jotham Goodnow
 Orrington, James A. Swett
 Portland, Dan'l Sawyer and Rev. C. D. Ffrench
 Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
 Thomaston, Horatio Alden
 Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, Bethuel Keith
 Exeter, S. J. Perkins
 Kingston, John Dearborn,
 Langdon, Royal Shumway
 Meredith, William M. Ladd
 Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
 New Ipswich, C. Hosmer
 New Hampton, James Jackson
 Nashua, Jesse Whitney
 Pembroke, Moses Martin
 Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
 Westmoreland, Barton Simmonds
 Washington, David Farnsworth

VERMONT.

Brookfield, Aaron Cleveland
 Bennington, George Boardman Jr., Silas Wilcox,
 and Edmund Smith
 Chelsea, Benj. Grout
 Chesterfield, Sally Paine
 Charlemont, David Todd
 Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
 Dover, Daniel Leonard and Washington Leonard
 East Randolph, P. Smith
 Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
 Halifax, S. Plumb, and Eben'r M. Clark
 " Alvah Brooks, and John Reid, Esq.
 Green River, Sam'l Cutting
 Guilford, Henry Packer, and Philip Martin
 Londonderry, J. Arnold
 Randolph, Jehiel Smith
 Readsboro', Leavitt Ballou
 Straton, Hiram Baldwin
 Woodstock, Nathan Cushing, and J. Holt
 Windham, Ezra T Butterfield
 Whitingham, W. Goodnow
 " Reuben Green, and Rufus Chase

RHODE ISLAND.

Bristol, M Mason
 New Shoreham, (Block Island) Simeon Babcock
 Woonsocket, Parker A. Haven

CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, John W. Johnson
 New Haven, George Munson
 Norwich, O B Lyman

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, William Harden

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Jesse Thomson
 New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev
 enth St., near 5th Avenue
 Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
 Troy, Ira Wood

NEW JERSEY.

Hightstown, Lawrence Taylor

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
 Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount; A. Willford

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st.

The Infirmary and Store at No. 40 Salem st. are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word—"Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“ Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 20.]

From the Botanic (N. Y.) Watchman.

Go forth, little herald, with the speed of the dart,
To the sick and the dying consolation impart;
Make haste, delay not your counsels to give,
Aid the sick to recover, the dying to live.

For such is the power invested in steam,
That cures are effected much more like a dream;
No poisons are given to relieve them from pains,
And the pure natal blood flows free in their veins.

The Thomsonian system of practice is good,
For the sick by its rules are allowed genial food;
Such favors to man sure no one denies,
Advanced in old age, from their use, ere he dies.

In the Scripture (by reading) we oftentimes are told,
That man used to live till some hundred years old;
Why was it so, had they doctors think you,
Who oft dos'd them with physic, their age to renew?

Admit it was so, and the practice was good,
The art has been lost long since by the flood:
If the art had descended for the good of mankind,
Cures would be more frequent, and disease would decline.

But the facts are far different, for seldom we see,
The sick so recovered, as from pain to be free:
For if death they escape, there awaits yet a curse,
For the afflictions of poisons in their limbs are far worse.

From the Botanic (Vt.) Watchman.

MERCURY,—AND ITS EFFECTS UPON THE HUMAN CONSTITUTION.

(Continued.)

It is evident that the calomel cannot with entire impunity remain for any length of time in the alimentary canal; hence we may reasonably infer that, during the fever, while it is accumulated there, it is a source of oppression to the vital powers, and consequently brings on debility; so that the patient derives no advantage from the calomel, except it, operate as a cathartic; but is obliged to endure its primary oppressive influence, and all the pain and inconvenience of its secondary effect of salivation.

Those of our readers who have had their own systems subjected to a course of mercurial salivation, need not be told that it is a distressing operation in the first instance; nor that it makes a deleterious and lasting impression upon the system.

This we hear from respectable and intelligent people, almost every day. Hence, we say that

it is time to abandon a practice which, under the most favorable circumstances, does not produce as much good as another practice, which is entirely void of danger. We do not say that calomel does no good in any case, but we say that it is very liable to produce bad consequences, and should be substituted by something equally efficacious in its remedial agency and destitute of deleterious qualities.

We shall here insert some of the observations of James Hamilton, M. D., Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and Professor of Obstetrics in the University of Edinburgh:—

“ Among the many poisons which have been used for the cure or alleviation of diseases, there are few which possess more active and of course more dangerous power than mercury. Even the most simple and mild forms of that medicine exert a most extensive influence over the human frame, and many of its chemical preparations are so deleterious that, in the smallest doses, they speedily destroy life. When the effects of mercury upon the human system are accurately investigated and duly considered, it cannot fail to appear that infinite injury must accrue from its use in many cases, and that whenever, from the nature of the indisposition, violent remedies are not absolutely required, a safe substitute for so hazardous a medicine ought to be found.— Preparations of mercury, exhibited either internally or externally for any length of time, increase, in general, the action of the heart and arteries, and produce salivation, followed by emaciation and debility, with an extremely irritable state of the system.

“ These effects of mercury are expressly mentioned or virtually admitted by every author, ancient and modern, who has directed its use, and it must appear very extraordinary that their full influence should have been hitherto misunderstood, or at least not sufficiently regarded. Accelerated circulation of the blood, in consequence of the use of mercury, is attended with the most obvious of the circumstances which arise from inflammation.

“ Reasoning upon the subject, it might be concluded that, if there be an inordinate action of the heart and arteries, attended with an altered state of the blood and with debility, while the increased secretions accompanying the inordinate action have no tendency to allay it, the health must be rapidly undermined, and if there be ulcerations in any part of the body, they must

as certainly degenerate into malignant sores, as blistered surfaces or scarifications mortify in cases where the living powers are much exhausted. Experience has proved the reality of these conclusions, but prejudice and inaccurate observation led many practitioners of deserved reputation to attribute those effects of mercury to other causes. From the cases recited by Dr. Blackall, there is reason to believe, that the inflammatory diathesis induced by mercury, may continue for a very considerable time after mercury had been laid aside, and without any manifest signs.

"When individuals in this state are subjected to accidental exposure to cold, or indulge in irregularity in living, a violent and anomalous indisposition takes place, which is apt to terminate fatally, or to occasion a broken state of health. In some cases of salivation, besides the ordinary ulceration of the gums, and loosening and final separation of the teeth, the tongue, moveable palate, &c., swell and ulcerate to a frightful degree."

Mr. Benjamin Bell observes that, besides the usual symptoms of fever, "mercury is apt to excite restlessness, anxiety, general debility, and a very distressful irritable state of the whole system. The consequences of this effect upon the nerves, are different upon different individuals. In some, temporary delirium takes place; in others, palsy or epilepsy supervene; and in many, the memory and judgement are more or less permanently impaired. Instances, too, have occurred, where sudden death has supervened, apparently in consequence of a very trifling exertion or agitation."

Mr. Pearson has well described such cases under the head *erethismus*. He says, "this state is characterized by great depression of strength or sense of anxiety about the precordia, irregular action of the heart, frequent sighing, partial or universal trembling; a small, quick, and sometimes intermitting pulse, occasional vomiting, a pale contracted countenance, a sense of coldness.

Among the anomalous complaints arising from this cause, (*viz*: mercury,) may be enumerated, impaired or capricious appetite for food with all the ordinary symptoms of indigestion; particularly retching in the morning and flatulency, disturbed sleep, with frightful dreams, impaired or depraved visions, frequent aches and pains in different parts of the body; occasionally such sudden failure of strength, as if just dying, and at other times, evident palpitation of the heart, accompanied with difficulty of breathing. Dr. Falconer says, that, among the ill effects produced by calomel, it tends to produce tremors and palsy, and not unfrequently incurable mania.—Mental derangement with eventual fatality, has sometimes followed a course of mercury; and

the probable reason why it does not do so more frequently, is, that the irritable state of mind which usually precedes actual derangement commonly alarms the attendants, and leads to active precautionary measures. Another consequence of the use of mercury is a very violent affection of the skin, originally hinted at by Mr Benjamin Bell, and more lately particularly described by Dr. Alley, of Dublin, Dr. Spens, of Edinburgh, and Mr. Pearson, of London. Experience seems to prove that mercury may remain in the system in a state of inertia for a considerable time, and afterwards, by some inexplicable circumstance, may become active and produce its specific effect. The ordinary mode of exhibiting mercury for the cure of chronic hepatitis, or common liver complaint in this country, not unfrequently hurries on the disease, or, by impairing the constitution, lays the foundation for paralytic affection, and it may be truly affirmed that it thus often shortens life. That there are many individuals who have often with impunity taken calomel as a purgative, is not to be denied; but it is equally true, that extreme irritability of the stomach and bowels, ulcerations of the mouth, with caries of the teeth, dropsy, epilepsy, and various other modifications of disease, have followed the use of that preparation. In several cases the author has decidedly ascertained that ulcerations of the villous coat of the intestines in infants and young children, have been induced by the frequent repetition of doses of calomel.

Had these injurious effects of calomel upon delicate constitutions been hid from the rest of the profession, and known only to the author, some apology might be offered for the pertinacity with which that medicine is still prescribed; but so far is this from being true, that it may be confidently asserted, that no medical man of competent knowledge and observation, could administer calomel as a purgative in a hundred instances, without being convinced of its injurious tendency. Of this innumerable proofs could be cited; but it is sufficient to appeal to the testimony of Professor Carlisle and Dr. Blackall. "That grave men," says Dr. Carlisle, "should violently persist in directing large doses of calomel, (and I consider any dose above four grains to be large,) and order these doses to be daily repeated in chronic and debilitated cases, is passing strange; men starting into the exercise of the medical profession, from a cloistered study of books, and from abstract speculations; men wholly unaware of the fallibility of medical evidence, and unversed in the doubtful effects of medicine, may be themselves deluded, and delude others for a time, but when experience has proved their errors, it would be magnanimous, and yet no more than just, to renounce both the opinion and the practice."

It appears to us, that the above remarks of Dr. Hamilton, and others of the profession, whose names are given, contain much truth, which will be responded to by the experience of many of our readers. We deem it unnecessary to make any comment upon these observations, since they are so plain and evident that every one can comprehend them and draw his own inferences. It is not unusual for many physicians, (when any doubts are expressed by those interested concerning the safety and propriety of taking calomel,) to say, that, though mercury is sometimes attended with bad consequences, still it is the only remedy which will save life in certain cases; and rather than die, it would be better to run the hazard of taking it.

Now it must be acknowledged that this is no more than bare assertion, and though it has been an argument sufficiently strong to induce thousands to take mercury, at the expense of their own health and life, still we are disposed to think that such arguments will not convince the thinking and intelligent mind. We are not fond of suspecting the sincerity of men's opinions; but when we hear men say that, in certain cases, nothing will prove effectual except calomel, and then, in these very cases, see them resort to some other means, such as croton oil, or some other vegetable production, we are compelled to suspect their sincerity. As an instance of the inefficiency of calomel for the relief of some diseases, we will relate the circumstances and treatment of a case of bilious cholic which occurred about a year ago in the northern part of Ohio. A gentleman was attacked with the ordinary symptoms of bilious cholic. A physician was sent for, who commenced the treatment by administering a large dose of calomel—it had no effect—the dose was repeated and repeated, till in the course of about three days, the doctor acknowledged that he had administered to this patient *two ounces* of calomel and fourteen drops of croton oil; all this had been given to no purpose; the patient grew worse, the friends became alarmed; and, upon expressing their fears to the doctor, were told by him that the case was desperate, and the only chance would be to give more calomel. As it seems, the friends had common sense enough to convince them that two ounces of calomel were as much as could, under the most favorable circumstances be productive of any good, and that, inasmuch as no advantage in this case had been derived from calomel, they were unwilling that any more should be given. They were all at a loss to know what to do: if they should send for another doctor of the regular faculty, they had no reason to doubt but that he would pursue the same *regular* course of giving calomel, as the one had done whom they had already employed,

he himself being a regular doctor, as any one must know from his having given two ounces of calomel. At several miles distance, there lived a steam doctor, who was quite successful in curing diseases, but he did not follow the fashion: and to employ such a man for a doctor, would bring a lasting disgrace upon the whole family, besides incurring the particular ill will of the faculty. It was no time for protracted deliberations. Something must be done soon. The patient was convinced that unless something could be done for his relief, different from what had been done, he must soon yield to a dissolution. Under this conviction he came to the unreasonable conclusion that, of two evils, it is best to choose the least; that, rather than die, he would send for a steam doctor! The humble steam doctor came, without any calomel or lancet; poorly equipped indeed to combat disease; but his means, though seemingly weak, were irresistibly strong; because they ran parallel with the steps of nature in the cure of disease. In the course of a few hours, the patient was essentially relieved, and in two day was able to be up and about. The above statement is given upon good authority, and can be proved to satisfy the doubtful.

(To be continued.)

From the Thomsonian (O.) Recorder.

FROM ANATOMICAL FACTS.

Messrs. Editors,—I. I hope you will not consider me too presumptuous, in offering for public consideration, a few concise remarks concerning the human machine, and the operative principle that sustain the phenomena of animal life.

II. Were I about to enter extensively into the important and intricate subject, I might commence with a specious developement of the mechanical or anatomical structure of the human frame; but I only design a concise view of some interesting points, for useful illustrations, of certain principles inherent in the living animal body, without attempting any thing like a vain parade of scientific ingenuity.

III. To effect the object I have in view, I shall only take a passing glance at the mechanic or organic structure of man's body, and in this glance shall just take notice of what are called the solids, particularly the bones, muscles, glands, arteries and veins, with the nerves and the pores.

IV. The bones by their shape, size, and their articulations at the joints, the nature of their substance, and particular adaptation to the whole machine, are subservient to aid and direct the motions of a living, moving body.

V. The muscles inserted into the bones and clothing or enclosing them, connect and hold the frame together, are sufficiently elastic not only to allow of but greatly to facilitate requisite motion.

VI. The glands secrete and excrete not only the saliva, bile and urine, that are accounted excrementitious—but other glands in performing their functional operations supply appropriate fluids to moisten and lubricate dependent parts, or parts dependent on them for the supply of such necessary moisture and lubricity.

VII. The circulation of the blood in the arteries of a living man, conveys a stream of animation along their channels, and the ramification of the veins distribute the living stream to the remotest extremities of our frame.

VIII. The nerves are the organs of sensation. They are the vehicle of communication between the brain and external objects. They originate in the cerebrum, and their sentient extremities coming in contact with exterior objects constitute the sensitive state or condition called seeing, hearing, feeling, tasting and smelling.

IX. The cerebral nerves are the more immediate organs of sensation, and anatomists refer us to the nerves issuing from the spinal marrow, which appear to be a continuance or elongation of the medullary substance of the brain—to these the power of motion is said to belong.

X. The nerves appear to be the conductors of a nervous fluid, or kind of animal electricity, particularly the cerebral, and in this way originate sensation, and ultimately thoughts and combination of thoughts, volitions and reflections.

XI. The pores of the skin constitute a great and important outlet, of superfluous matter—they are admirably adapted for the purgation or throwing off offensive humors from the whole machine by a universal stream of perspiration. By this means also the skin is kept soft as perspiration proceeds regularly in a healthy state. Through these channels about five-eighths of what we eat and drink is disengaged and discharged from the body.

XII. From this concise sketch of the subject, we arrive with a good degree of certainty to the following conclusions:

1. We discover that exercise of the whole body is of importance—to bring the elastic power of the muscles into action—rouse the nervous energy, move the joints, and circulate the fluids.

2. We discover that it is very important to the well being of the animal system, to maintain a proper determination to the surface, to promote a free and full perspiration through the pores of the skin; that the system may not become loaded and oppressed, by the retention of those redundant and offensive excrementi-

tious impurities, often offensive to the attendants, and which nature says should pass off that way.

3. The fact becomes obvious, that the rational way of cleansing the system of those deep seated and pernicious impurities according to correct natural principles, is by the pores of the skin, not by drastic, debilitating purgatives, or cathartics as they are called.

4. We are drawn incontestably to the conclusion, that as the blood contains a principle of vitality, or a certain something, call it what you will, essential to a living state or state of sensation, volition, and voluntary action, this living principle of life, or principle essential to life, or a principle inducing a conscious sensitive living state, circulating in and with the blood, itself a living moving principle imparting power to move, see, hear, feel, taste, smell, live, or be alive, is conveyed in the vascular channels prepared for its circulation to every part of the living body—of course, every thing that has a direct or indirect tendency to diminish its quantity or vitiate and weaken its quality, or impede its circulation is calculated to induce disease.

5. We infer from the premises, that whenever an impoverished, vitiated state or condition of the blood exist, the nervous energy, or force of the nervous fluid is diminished, or rather perhaps I might say, the power of animal electricity is defective, the nervous system becomes relaxed, or contracted into spasm, and mental derangement often supervenes.

6. From these deductions as here presented, we discover that we may bring them to a focus, in one general *inference*, which may be stated thus: As to the living, sensible, human machine, "the blood is the life thereof," a vital principle, a principle of vitality, a living energy or impulse is there, therefore if the blood be furnished to the system in sufficient quantity and of a salutary quality, and circulates with natural facility and regularity, the power of life is strong; but every unnatural or improper diminution of its quantity, and every defect or impurity in the quality thereof, or whatever impedes interrupts, disturbs or deranges the natural and regular circulation thereof, is an approximation to death, because life, or the vital impulse is thereby reduced in force or energy, the principle of life becomes disturbed or vitiated at its very fountain—the living power is partially and inefficiently distributed.

XIII. As the living animal body, in which the stream of life is circulating, is invariably endowed with, or possessed of a certain degree of heat, it is evident that heat must be essential to vitality. It always accompanies the living state, either as a cause or an effect—we would say, as a cause, for where there is no warmth vitality is extinguished.

XIV. From what has been suggested above, we are naturally led to inquire, upon what principle, the living system can be sustained in life and its wastings supplied. When its energies are impaired, how shall restoration be effected? How is life supported? How is the blood furnished or supplied with, or what means can keep up the vital flame in the system? It is constantly diffusing and imparting warmth and action to sustain the living state of the whole machine, thereby wasting its energies or power to sustain vitality, or the state of living *warmth*, action, sensation, consciousness of perception, reflection, &c. Where the needy supply fails, these faculties, or living powers all decline. If a certain requisite degree of warmth is not supplied, vitality must become extinct, or in other words death ensues.

XV. Nothing can be more evident than, that the blood is constantly forming and supplied not only with recruits of its wasting quantity, but its qualities also, for all the purposes of life; and is furnished by the food, both liquid and solid, that is taken into the stomach, which passes through the process of digestion and is taken up by the lacteals. A nutritious distribution ensues, imparting stimuli, warmth and motion through the whole system. These in connection with the air inhaled into the lungs in respiration—the changes it undergoes and the effect produced, may measureably account for all the phenomena of life.

XVI. I conceive the process of digestion to be an important desideratum in the perpetuation of animal life and health. Whenever the powers of digestion are impaired by any defect in the quantity or quality of the food supplied, or some defect occurs in the organs themselves, the general condition of the system is affected as a natural consequence. In proportion to the impaired condition of our digestive powers will be the measure of our disease, the living fluid will become vitiated, weakened, or impaired, its stimulating, warm and warming powers will become defective.

XVII. On similar principles whatever poisonous or unwholesome substance is taken into the stomach, either as food or medicine, and by the organs of digestion thrown upon the system, will naturally impair the machinery, introduce a general derangement, and disease and death will certainly ensue, unless the pending evil is discovered in due season, the cause avoided and appropriate remedies applied.

XVIII. I have sometimes, by way of illustration, compared the human machine to a distillery, where the grain ground by the teeth, is transferred to the stomach to undergo a certain species of fermentation, by a proper combination of warmth, air and moisture—the process of di-

gestion there commenced is more fully completed in the duodenum and its appendages, where the work of separating the spirit from the alimentary mass is performed. The aqueous or watery part in which the vitalising spirit swims, is separated from the residue or solids—the lymphatic meseraic glands, the lacteal vessels and thoracic duct are thus supplied, with that milk-like liquor, called chyle, which is found in these vessels in a short time after eating.

XIX. This chyle is in the operation of digestion, separated from the chyme or ingested partially digested mass of food in its passage from the stomach to the small intestines by a combination of the gastric, salivatic, and pancreatic juices and admixture of a portion of the bile, the work of digestion is so far completed, that nutrition is impaired to the system. The chylaceous vessels that arise along the small intestines, take up and convey this fluid by appropriate organs for replenishing the blood in quantity and quality—the regular and natural exhaustion is thus supplied, and every waste restored.

XX. This I conceive to be an important point and worthy the calm and deep reflection of every one wishing to be correctly informed on the subject. If by any means the powers of digestion become impaired, what is the natural conclusion? May we not then conceive that the chyle, on the quality of which our nourishment depends, instead of being properly prepared, would furnish such a crude supply, or be presented to the lacteals in a condition not to be received! Of course what nature designed for our nutriment, would pursue a different channel, and pass off in this crude, imperfect, morbid state, like the *rice-water* stools attendant on the epidemic cholera. The blood in such cases loses, or is deprived of its wonted supply, its stimuli, heat and nourishment. Its circulation becomes weak and languid, the extremities of the system become cold, shrivelled, and the coagulated state that ensues, presents a purple hue upon the surface, the muscles contract and collapse with spasmodic confusion, the impoverished stream of life gives but a feeble tone to the vascular system, recedes from its wonted excursions, rolls back upon the heart. Its action becomes feeble by oppression—the pulsation weak or imperceptible, until the “golden bowl is broken and the pitcher dashed in pieces at the fountain,” and death closes the scene.

XXI. I have made an allusion to the cholera, merely for illustration; not that I would be understood as intimating that what is called the cholera, is a new, peculiar, and unprecedented disease; but, because it exhibits the phenomena of the closing scene of all disease, whatever form it wears, “beginning;” as Megendi said,

"where other diseases," or he might have said, other forms of disease, do "end, viz: in death"—or I would say a rapid approximation thereunto.

XXII. All other forms of general disease, or disease affecting the whole system, are produced by the same cause, differing only in some local circumstances, or in degrees of violence. In every circumstance and degree of disease, some peculiar symptomatic difference or variety may be produced, but judging and naming disease, by a multitude of different names, after some predominant symptom, or symptoms, and applying or administering medicine to remove some peculiar symptom, and not for the expulsion of the cause, the removal of the disease, and restoration of the sick, has filled the shops with almost innumerable medicines; books with a multitude of unintelligible names, for the symptomatic variety, or diversity of forms, in which disease afflicts mankind, and the grave with innumerable dead, who have fallen untimely victims to learned folly and superstition.

XXIII. From the forming state of an incipient dyspepsy, or any slight morbid affection, and a collapsed state of cholera, there is a vast disparity in appearance, but the cause is the same in each, differing only in degrees and incidental circumstances; these like the two poles, embrace every variety of degree that lies between them.

XXIV. In order to express more clearly my ideas, how we should prevent disease, let me follow up the comparison we have already made. Like a distiller of spirits keep our vessels clean, see that the stomach acquires no foulness, no sourness, lest it communicate an impurity to the blood, the vital spirit; use only sound materials, wholesome digestible food that will yield good nourishment, lest there should be some failure in the process, and little spirit be obtained, and that of a poor defective quality.

XXV. To cure disease, let us do as the distillers do, clean the *beer cask*—let us cleanse the *stomach*—use emetics, stimulate it to a healthy action, supply it with wholesome digestible food, in this way fresh and good chyle will be formed, the blood will be supplied with a stimulating spirit; action, warmth and nourishment will be the consequence. From a healthy state or condition of the stomach, the organs of digestion all acquire a healthy action, a salutary chyle is formed, and all the nutriment supplied will partake of the same healthful nature.

XXVI. Thus circumstanced, all the organic functions will proceed harmoniously, there will be a regular determination to the pores of the skin, of all that ought to pass those cutaneous excretories. From the chylous region to the surface, there will be a regular transfusion,

transmission and transmutation, the whole machine will be kept clear of obstructions and impurities, and the established laws of nature operate unimpeded in the whole process.

XXVII. What nature would do if it was able, unimpeded, unembarrassed in its operations, is just what should be attempted by the use of medicines. It is all it can do, to do any good. If the powers of nature be debilitated and embarrassed by any cause, and the vital functions languish, we must stimulate the system, rouse the living fire, excite the living principle to action and propel the motions of the whole machine. By warmth and action the fluids become rarified within, and this heat exceeding the external temperature, gives a more vigorous and effective determination to the surface—cleansing the lurking, lingering impurities, and restore declining nature to its wonted health and vigor.

XXVIII. In effecting these important objects, sound discretion, aided by observation and experience, should be the criteria to regulate our efforts. An excessive irrational extravagance, that savors of violence in our efforts on the one hand, or a cowardly, timorous, heartless, inefficient treatment on the other, are extremes to be equally avoided. When safe and well tried medicines are used, we should apply our remedies with all diligence and persevering faithfulness, for by perseverance, means have succeeded when hope had almost forsaken us.

XXIX. When injured nature is too much weakened and obstructed in its operations, to execute its own laws with necessary effect, we should promptly and perseveringly afford her the needful assistance. In effecting these important objects, let us not forget that the stomach is the great centre of sympathetic associations, whether healthy or morbid, throughout the whole system. In sickness, to establish the digestive powers, and give them victory, is a starting point. In this way, we may stimulate, and rouse, and impel the whole machine into a salutary operation—remove disease, restore to health, and triumph over ignorance and opposition, that we meet with, often more formidable than the disease we have to encounter.—To manage disease when it appears in a formidable shape, and at the same time, have to manage some of these refractory spirits, will require our utmost skill. The apostle's direction in another case, applies well here, "let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not."

W. T.

If it be shameful to be overcome by our enemy in a contest, we should deem it no less shameful, to be outdone by our friends in kindness.

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

NURSES BETTER THAN DOCTORS.

We have often heard it said that old ladies were better than doctors. The only time in which I ever employed a doctor, I found the saying true. I have lived to more than thirty years, never took a doctor's prescription, and presume I never shall.

The instance that I allude to happened about the year 1820, when I was living in the country. I stuck the point of a sickle into my ankle near the inside bone; but as it did not pain me much I paid no attention to it until in about three or four weeks when it became very sore. I examined it and found that it had become a fungous ulcer and poisoned by the wet grass and dirt to which it had been exposed. I immediately applied burnt allum, to take off the granulations and proud flesh, and then applied a poultice of bread and milk, after washing it well with warm soapsuds, and continued my treatment for four weeks. It grew worse, and I applied to a physician who attended me for about six months. He began by applying dressings of simple crease, supposing soon to effect a cure, but very soon the calous edges of the sore removed the prospect of success from that treatment. The lunar caustic was then applied, and the calous edges removed: strips of sticking plaster was then passed over to draw the edges together and put under a pressure by a tight bandage. After continuing this process a long time, applying the caustic every other week, it became a confirmed indolent ulcer. The doctor could do no more for it and gave it up. He charged nothing, as he had done no good, but the pain he caused me was a sufficient burthen on my part. I was not then acquainted with the Thomsonian practice; for, if I had been, I would soon have cured it myself. I then applied to an old quaker lady, who was famed for skill in such matters. She promised a cure in a few weeks, and accordingly began by applying stimulants. She bathed it twice a day in the best fourth proof brandy for an hour or two each time, and dressed it with dry lint next the sore, and a salve plaster made thin and spread over to keep it from the air, and in three weeks the calous edges were removed, which before looked like cartilage. She continued the process, and in five weeks it was entirely well. She charged me nothing, as she was one of those good souls, a quaker preacher, who take nothing for the good they do to mankind.

"To thine own self be true,
And it must follow, as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man."

STANZAS.

'Tis sad to mark where early worth
Has sunk untimely to the tomb,
And stars, that might have lightened earth,
Ere half unveiled, are quench'd in gloom.
To see the heart, through long dark years,
Still struggling proudly with its lot,
That virtue, genius, truth endears,
To live unknown, to die forgot.

But sadder far, when vice hath made
Its home where intellect should glow,
To trace the dark and blighting shade
Of shame upon a noble brow;
Where virtue, talent, all had given
Bright promise of a glorious day;
To see the bounteous gifts of Heaven
On earthly altar cast away.

The tomb where hope and youth hath lain,
May wake the minstrel's pensive lay,
And suffering virtue still must gain
In happier climes a fadeless day.
But for the fallen! Fame to thee
But thought of bitter mockery brings,
And all the lyre can give must be,
The tears that fall upon its strings.

UNIVERSAL EDUCATION.

It is cheering to perceive, as we do by our exchange papers, evidence of an increasing attention to the great subject of Education, in almost all parts of our country. We observe that societies, lyceums, and other associations for its promotion, are becoming very common in the great and powerful West; and that their efforts are seconded very cordially by a portion at least of the conductors of the public press.—This is welcome intelligence; for us no truth is clearer, than that this same Universal Education is absolutely indispensable to the preservation of our present incomparable form of government. If there is any panacea for all the diseases of our body politic—if there is any preventive for that incurable consumption by which all republics hitherto have perished, it appears to us to be the education, as a matter of law and necessity, of every child that arrives at the proper age for instruction. By education, however, we do not mean the study of words and of languages chiefly; but the formation of the mind, the judgment, and the heart or disposition, with regard to men and things by careful practical training, and a familiarity from early childhood upwards, with the truth of science—inculcated not by mere words, but by constant exhibitions of objects and experiments; a thorough inculcation of the rights, duties and interests of citizens, and at the same time, the acquirement, by practice, of some useful art, trade, or manipulation, by which the hands of a healthful body guided by the judgment of a sound and well in-

formed head, influenced by the dictates of a heart formed by precept and example to universal benevolence, may, without the blighting influence of the false and pernicious dogma, that labor is a curse or a punishment, and less reputable than idleness, secure a livelihood for every individual in the community, and for all those dependent upon him or her for support.

Let such an education be alike the certain legacy from the public to every son and daughter of this Republic, and then, if self-government is not indeed a chimera, if liberty and equal rights, in distinction from being bestridden by a booted and spurred master "by the grace of God," are a reality, we shall prove it. Let it not be forgotten, that the intellectual starvation in mental darkness is the only safe fare for the subjects of a despotism,—the very reverse of these, the full feast of reason in the broad sunshine of knowledge, is the indispensable aliment of the citizens of a republic.

We must bear in mind too, that the people of these United States possess one power that those of the so called Republics of antiquity never dreamed of—and that, too, the most potent by far, in reference to human knowledge, that has ever existed: we mean in the power of multiplying copies of our thoughts, (if we may say so,) by which the discovery of a thought, by an individual ever so obscure, becomes, as by magic, the property of a whole community. It is no longer the living teacher and our own individual experience on which we are dependent for instruction; the PRESS—the all potent and ever prompting PRESS—is the engine which influences, and which is destined hereafter forever to influence the world of mind, more than any other power, or than all other powers, combined. Let then those who possess influence in society, exert themselves to promote the great cause of Education—the practical common sense Education of the head, heart, and hands of both sexes, and all conditions; and in his exertions, let him not forget the great steam-power of mind—the PRINTING PRESS.

BE INDEPENDENT.

There is a tendency in the spirit of our institutions to convert every intellectual pursuit and especially that of the editor of a popular gazette, into a political engine; and such is the weak and time-serving character of a large majority of those who ought to control the press, that this tendency has become alarmingly prevalent. The free press, the handmaid and companion of liberty, has been converted into the mere shadow of itself, to be kept forever prone in the mud and dust, instead of the erect and intrepid champion of human rights.

This tendency we resist, in every form of it. We hold that subserviency to party is death to freedom. Truth, science, and philosophy are of no mischievous political partizanship; and freedom is their ally, dependent upon them for growth and defence: therefore, the independent spirit, in the pursuit and practice of these, will be without the trammels of party.

In opposition to the proscribing and enslaving tendencies of party, we are earnestly in favor of the utmost freedom of opinion and discussion. Most heartily do we cherish that moral freedom of speech and of the press which our institutions secure to all. Such freedom is not a thing speculative or equivalent in its value. Whatever concerns its use and its abuse is of important moment. He is not a man who can be neutral in the discussion, or indifferent to the decision of the political questions that successively divide the opinions and agitate the passions of a free people. He is not worthy to participate the blessings of liberty, who can be thus neutral and indifferent; who, on all proper occasions, will not deliberately form and boldly avow the opinion on that side of every question which his understanding and his conscience lead him to embrace.—[Bloomington (Ia.) Equator.

OLD LETTERS.—We know of nothing more calculated to bring back the nearly-faded dreams of youth—the almost obliterated scenes and passions of our boyhood—and to recall the brightest and best associations of those days,

"When the young blood ran riot in the veins
And boyhood made us sanguine;"

nothing that more easily conjures up the alternate joys and sorrows of maturer years—the fluctuating visions that have floated before the restless imagination in times gone by, and the breathing forms and inanimate objects that wound themselves around our hearts, and became almost necessary to our existence, than the perusal of old letters. They are the memorials of attachment—the records of affection—the speaking trumpets through which those whom we esteem hail us from afar. They seem hallowed by the brother's grasp, the sister's kiss, the father's blessing, and the mother's love. When we look on them, the friends whom dreary seas and distant leagues divide from us are again in our presence. We see their cordial looks and hear their gladdening voices once more. The paper has a tongue in every character it contains—a language in its very silentness. They speak to the souls of men like a voice from the grave, and are the links of that chain which connects with the hearts and sympathies of the living an evergreen remembrance of the dead.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 1, 1841.

MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE.

The apathy and indifference with which people regard medical knowledge is indeed pitiable.—After so much has been said and done, by men of learning, experience and honesty, to undeceive them as respects the treatment and cure of disease, still the mass of community are entirely careless on this important subject. Thomsonism has now attained an eminence in society, which its founder could hardly have anticipated in his own time; but his persevering exertions in the search and establishment of the fundamental principles of life and health, has placed it above the reach of the invective and spleen of the interested poison faculty; and in defiance of their selfishness and bigotry, and the slowness of community to acknowledge its superiority over the old practice, as well as the benefit that many of them have derived from it—it will spread far and wide, and will eventually exterminate that system of poison and bleeding, and the world will be filled with its beneficial effects.

Man is a creature so engrossed with his own peculiar source for gain, that he seldom looks about himself to correct the abuses under which he has long suffered, until these abuses become so apparent that it is impossible longer to bear them; it is so in regard to medical knowledge. A self-constituted dictatorship has been set up by a few designing men, who have made themselves the guardians of health; and have lulled the confiding people into the belief that to watch after the cause of disease and seek for its remedy, is useless, when their guardians are ever ready to extend to them the necessary assistance! People do thus put all confidence in the Doctor,—and how wofully do they sometimes lament their own indiscretion in so doing. How often the wife is made a widow, the

children orphans, the husband comfortless, and parents to mourn the loss of their tender children, through the instrumentality of too implicit a reliance on these guardians!—men whose harvest is the pestilence!—whose purse is filled with the orphan's portion and the widow's mite!—who fatten by prolonging the weary days and sleepless nights of the invalid!

With a little care, attention and reflection, on the part of the careless and indifferent, to the subject of *disease*, and *its cure*, much of the misery of life might be prevented. The victims of mercury and the lancet would be thereby lessened in number: there would be no deformed children brought into existence; less premature deaths; and sprightly old age would every where greet us. We invite the reader's attention to the following remarks, made by medical men; they are worthy of remembrance:—

“As health is the most precious of all things; and is the foundation of all happiness, the science of protecting life and health is the noblest of all, and most worthy the attention of all mankind.”—*Hoffman*.

“The essential principles of medicine are very few; they are moreover plain.”—*Rush*.

“All men ought to be acquainted with the medical art. I believe that knowledge of medicine is the sister and companion of wisdom.”—*Hippocrates*.

“The whole nation is groaning under the present practice of the medical profession, which fosters disease more than it cures it; and debases or ruins our constitution.”—*Morrison*.

“If the employment of the lancet were abolished altogether, it would perhaps save annually a greater number of lives than in any one year the sword has ever destroyed.”—*Ring*.

“Beware of all minerals used as medicine; such as mercury, arsenic, calomel, antimony; all preparations of copper, lead, iron, vitrol; also nitre and opium; they are all poisons and deadly enemies to health. Beware of bleeding and blistering; they are destructive of health; avoid seatons and issues; they are hateful, nauseous, and drain the very sources of life; they never did, and never can do good. Shun them all, as opposed to life and its vital functions.”—*Samuel Thomson*.

“Arsenic, in cancer powder, has been absorbed by the patient, so as to cause death by consumption, in the course of one year.”—*Thatcher*.

“Among the numerous poisons which have been used for the cure or alleviation of diseases, there are few which possess more active, and of course more dangerous, powers, than mercury.

Practitioners prescribe on every trifling occasion calomel or the blue pill."—*Dr. Hamilton.*

"The morbid effects of mercurial medicine are almost innumerable; retchings in the morning, disturbed sleep, frightful dreams, impaired vision, aches and pains in different parts of the body, sudden failure of strength, as if just dying, violent palpitations at the heart, difficult breathing, with shocking depression of spirits, intolerable feelings, nervous agitations, tremors, paralysis, incurable mania, mental derangement, fatuity, suicide, deformity, bones of the face destroyed, and miserable death."—*Reece.*

"The medicine and mode of practice of Thomson, is far superior to that in use among the physicians; as has been demonstrated, by its effects in curing disease, when all their art had failed; not in one, or a few cases, but in many of the most protracted and complicated distempers, given over as incurable by the faculty."—*Robinson.*

"Previous to the introduction of the Thomsonian System, by its venerable founder, to the people of the United States, the science of medicine, as it is called, was considered beyond the capacity of any individual who was not educated particularly for the medical profession. We are aware that the prevailing opinions of the day, among those who give themselves no trouble in investigating the importance of medical knowledge, are, that those only who receive a regular education for the profession are fit for the practice. With this view, they employ an M. D., and suffer the most ruinous treatment that could be imagined, without the least capacity of judging of the effects or causes produced by the administration of agents unknown to them. And what surprises us is to hear people of good education and high standing in society, speak of the medical skill of men, while they are totally ignorant of their profession. The most trifling prescription written by a mineral doctor is incomprehensible to the most learned of our citizens. And yet it is a matter of every day occurrence to hear people praising that which they do not understand, and in like manner condemning that which they do not comprehend! We do not find this apparent manifestation of ignorance or prejudice confined to any particular class of people, it predominates among all classes, and we are not fully satisfied but that it is rather the most prevalent with those who compose the richer part of society. We have observed that what is styled the fashionable circle of this city are wofully duped by medical pretenders, and we are rather disposed to believe they will be the last to receive wholesome intelligence. They are wedded to fashion, and, therefore, they are of opinion that any thing

out of fashion, without any further reason on the subject, is sufficient to disqualify its use. The condition of the poor is to be pitied, but that of the sick is deplorable; they have the means of enjoyment within their grasp, but they are led by folly and madness into the vilest imaginations and superstition of the darkest hue."—*Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.*

THE HEALING ART.

BY REV. JOHN WESLEY.

The healing art was first brought into use in a very natural and simple manner. In the earliest ages of the world, mankind, by various experiments, or accidents, discovered that certain plants, roots, and barks, possessed medicinal properties. These were found sufficient to remove their diseases. The application of these remedies was plain and easy; but in process of time many began to make a profession of medicine, and to strip it of its simplicity: they began to inquire into the operation of such remedies, why, and how they performed such cures; they examined the human frame and all its parts; the nature of the flesh, arteries, nerves; the structure of the brain, heart, lungs, stomach, bowels, &c. with the springs of the several animal functions. They explored the several kinds of animal and mineral, as well as vegetable substances, and hence the whole order of physic, was subverted, and founded upon hypothesis: they formed theories of diseases and their cures, and substituted these in place of experiments.

As theories increased, simple medicines were more and more disregarded, and disused, till in the course of years, the greater part of them were forgotten, at least, in the more polite nations.

In the room of these, abundance of new ones were introduced, by reasoning, speculative men; and those more and more difficult to be applied, as being more remote from common observation. Hence, rules for the application of these, and medical books were immensely multiplied; till at length physic became an abstruse science, quite out of the reach of ordinary men. Physicians now began to be held in admiration, as persons who were something more than human. And profit attended their employ, as well as honour. So that they had now, two weighty reasons for keeping the bulk of mankind at a distance, that they might not pry into the mysteries of their profession. To this end they increased those difficulties, by design, which were in a manner by accident. They filled their writings with abundance of tech-

nical terms, utterly unintelligible to plain men.— They affected to deliver their rules, and to reason upon them, in an abstruse and philosophical manner. They represented the critical knowledge of anatomy, natural philosophy, (and what not,) some of them insisting on that of astronomy, and astrology, too, as necessary, previous to the understanding of the art of healing. Those who understood only how to restore the sick to health, they branded with the name of Empirics. They introduced into practice abundance of compound medicines, consisting of so many ingredients, that it was scarcely possible for common people to know which it was that wrought the cure. Abundance of exotics, neither the nature or names of which their own countrymen understood. Of chemicals, such as they neither had skill, or fortune, or time, to prepare ! yea, and of dangerous ones too, such as they could not use without hazarding life, but by the advice of a physician. And thus, both their honor and gain were secured, and a vast majority of mankind being utterly cut off from helping either themselves or their neighbors, or once daring to attempt it. Yet there has not been wanting, from time to time, some lovers of mankind, who have endeavored, (even contrary to their own interest,) to reduce physic to its ancient standard ; who have labored to explode out of it all hypothesis and fine-spun theories, and to make it a plain, intelligible thing, as it was in the beginning, having no more mystery in it than this, “such a medicine removes such a pain.” These have shown to a demonstration, that neither the knowledge of astrology, astronomy, natural philosophy, nor even anatomy itself, is absolutely necessary to the quick and effectual cure of most diseases incident to the human body. Nor yet any chemical, or exotic, or compound medicine, but a simple plant or root duly applied, so that every man of common sense, (in ordinary cases,) may prescribe to himself, or his neighbor ; and may be very secure from doing harm, even where he can do no good.

Even to the last age, there was something of this kind done, particularly by Dr. Sydenham.— And in the present, by his pupil, Dr. Dover, who has pointed out simple medicine for many diseases. And some such may be found in the writings of the learned and ingenious Dr. Cheyne, who, doubtless, would have communicated many more to the world, but for the melancholy reason, he gave to one of his friends, that pressed him with some passages in his works, which too much countenanced the modern practice—“O sir, we must do something, to oblige the faculty, or they will tear us in pieces.”

DR. THOMSON'S BOOK.

In our last number we copied some remarks of the “Columbus (O.) Recorder,” relative to the new book, in which Dr. Curtis says, “we are apprised that the whole work is ready for delivery,” this sentence, we are informed, has caused a great stir among those who have been so long waiting for the work, and orders in large numbers have been received, which we regret to say cannot be answered yet. We did not know at the time of copying the article from the Recorder, but it was correct, and that some of the books might have been put on board some conveyance for Boston, and that some delay had prevented their reaching hear in good season; thus enabling Dr. Curtis to get the good news before us. But it seems this news was “too good to be true;” for although Dr. John Thomson is rapidly advancing the work, and will soon have it ready for delivery, yet it has not yet gone to the Binder. Dr. Curtis will please correct his mistake in his paper, as we are sure it was not his intention to misinform.

We have seen Dr. Thomsons' book as far as printed. It will be a valuable work; but as other men of more experience have spoken of it, and as we have published their remarks, our own comments are not necessary. We say with Dr. Curtis, that “Dr. Thomson's sanction is enough.”

PHYSIC.

Any person who reflects on the subject of physic, as a remedial agent, will soon arrive at the conclusion, that quackery, learned or unlearned, has its foundatoin and entire support predicated on the erroneous idea that physic is medicine, and its employment for the removal of disease is as necessary as food is to remove hunger, or water thirst. What is more common, on the visitation of a learned, or indeed, an ignorant quack, than the first thing ordered to be a dose of *physic* ! And we will still go further. What gives encouragement and celebrity to quack nostrums, but the idea that physic is an essential agent? yea, indispensable? and so general is this idea implanted in the mind of every one who suffers others to prescribe for his maladies, that it is the first step taken. We are at a loss to see what greater benefit could be derived from any one subject of a medical character than that of the propriety, utility, or necessity, of employing physic of any kind, in any disease whereby the functions of the animal economy lose their proper action, and a remedy is required to aid them in producing a general equilibrium, which, under all circumstances, is abso-

lutely necessary to restore health. Those who adopt the plan of giving physic to remove disease, go upon the principle of depletion—that is, to lower the action of the system—which is done “scientifically” either by purging or bleeding. As this subject is of vast importance, we will resume it at a future time, hoping that our readers will lay aside all prejudice on the subject. To exercise our reasoning faculties is a duty we owe to our God; our country, and ourselves.—[Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.]

LIVING WITH AND WITHOUT RULE.

A striking instance of a man's living by most exact and excellent rules, while he declares himself living without rule, is presented to us in the case of Dr. Jackson, an aged and distinguished physician in the British army. “I have wandered a good deal about the world,” says he, “and never followed any prescribed rule in any thing; my health has been tried in all ways; and by the aids of temperance and hard work, I have worn out two armies, in two wars, and could probably wear out another before my period of old age arrives. I eat no animal food, drink no wine, or malt liquor, or spirits of any kind; I wear no flannel, and regard neither wind nor rain, heat nor cold, when business is in the way.” Here you have a man following no prescribed rule, yet adhering most rigidly to all that is important in prescriptions for temperance and exercise.

ROGER SHERMAN.—“It was remarked of this distinguished man, by Mr. Jefferson, that he never said a foolish thing in his life. Fisher Ames was accustomed to express his opinion of him, by saying, that if he happened to be out of his seat when a subject was discussed, and came in when the question was about to be taken, he felt safe in voting as Mr. Sherman did—for he always voted right. Mr. Macon used to say, that Roger Sherman had more common sense than any man he ever knew. This great and good man was self-taught. His first occupation in life was that of a shoemaker. While carrying on his trade, he used at his leisure hours to read useful books, till he became a distinguished lawyer and eminent judge. Here is an example worthy of the notice and imitation of youth in all stations of society.

Arsenic and tartar emetic, as has been found after death, produces the most deleterious effects on the stomach; and yet they are used as medicine.

SMALL POX.

A case of this form of disease terminated fatally in this city on the evening of August 22d. The victim to this disease, was the mother of two fine children, who are by this afflictive event deprived of her protection in their infantile years. Three physicians, we understand, were in attendance on this case, till they considered it incurable. At this stage, a friend recommenced as a nurse a person who had had the care of a number of bad cases which had recovered; this nurse is a Thomsonian. On going to the house of the sick woman judge of the horror a Thomsonian, or any reasonable person must feel, to find the patient had been kept cool by having ICE! placed on the stomach and bowels! A different course was advised by this person, who was obliged to leave for a little while, at the same time requesting the friends of the patient to call a Thomsonian physician immediately; they did so—but it was too late; for on entering the sick room, the body was found lifeless. The windows were open, and the feet of the woman entirely exposed to the air! The physician last called, found the bed-clothes still wet with *ice water*, the old nurse ignorant that life was extinct!! We give these facts as they are related to us, believing them to be correct. We hope for the honor of mankind that they are highly colored. How ignorant of the nature of disease must that physician be, no matter how much Latin and Greek he can read, who would adopt such a mode of treatment. And although it is a common thing for friends and relatives to flee from the infected room, yet they have but little obeyed the golden rule, when for their own care and attention they substitute that of “a nurse.” Little, can one who abandons the sick friend to the care of a hireling, know the consolation imparted by a recollection of having counted self nothing, for the sake of administering to the wants of the sick and dying relative and friend. To soothe the last pang of expiring nature, to show by attention, our love, and at last to close the eyes of one, whom disease has removed, is a consolation which the sordid and affrighted can never experience. Death is sure to find us; and shall we for a few years of respite from his arms, leave the friend in sickness whose company when in health we courted? Such conduct will have its reward by the condemnation of conscience. Again, the person who has arrived at adult age, and places implicit confidence in all a doctor prescribes, when his directions are contrary to all reason, should turn back to childhood and by reflection and observation on the past, make themselves useful in the sick chamber as


well as in the busy scenes of life. Without such source of being useful, no one has fulfilled his or her duty to the world.

A POSER.—“I hope you are not going to give this stuff to father,” sobbed a little girl, as she returned from an apothecary’s shop where she had been sent with a doctor’s prescription.

“Why not, my child?” inquired the mother, somewhat surprised.

“Because,” replied the child, “the man took this medicine out of the very same bottle that he did the *poison* the other day for you to kill rats with !”

“You do n’t understand *science*, my dear.”

 We see it stated in the newspapers that *castor oil* is manufactured extensively in Illinois, and used in lamps, instead of sperm oil. This is as it should be. It would be much better for mankind were the majority of drugs prescribed by the faculty put to as harmless an use. People have been in the dark long enough in using this article as a medicine, and we are happy to see that they are now likely to receive some *light* on the subject.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

TO MY FELLOW COUNTRYMEN.

MR. EDITOR,—Will ye be afther having no objection to me spaiking a few aisy words to me oun daer counthrymen, through your paper? By me sowl, it shall be the living trruth, ivery word iv it.

I will jist tell them, thin, that for a yaer or more I have been viry much throubled with me stomach; most ivery thing that I ate would be afther coming up before it was down; and I ground viry thin and wake, entirely. And as to that ould fellow Morpheus, (I belave that is his name, though I can’t say for certain, as he is not afther baing one of our Saints,) he did n’t visit me at all at all, nights, but jist kept both’ring me all day whin I was thrying to worrk; in goud trruth, about all the slape I got for months, was whin I was wide awake, an’ sure. Well thin, things wint on in this way, till the month iv July last, whin one night as I was afther gouing through the room in the dark, I stumbled over something that had been left in the way, and wint with me pate full tilt against a nail that was druv in the wall, an’ cut a houl in me head jist above the timple big enough to put in a small murphy, sure. “O, murther, murther, I’m kilt, I’m kilt,” cried I. Me ould woman prisently come running in with a light,

and saeing the blood spouting a strame out iv me head, she jist run to the door an’ cried for help. In a viry few minutes the neighbors flocked in, an afther thrying all manes to stop the blood, some of thim run for a docthor, as they thought I was blaiding to death. Well, ye see, the nearest place being the Thomsonian Infirmary, No. 40 Salem sthrate, they wint there and called up Doct. Magoon. He was down to sae me in liss thin no time, and brought some stuff wid him he called “Fine Canker Powther,” an’ faith, viry fine stuff it was, intirely; for afther giving me a little something warm to dhrink, the Docthor put some iv his powther on me head, and the blood stopped in a moment. He thin bathed me head wid his Hot Dhrops, dhressed it in goud shape, and left me aisy for the night.

In a day or two afther this, I concluded to go to the Infirmary and take some midicine, as me stomach was viry bad intirely, and I was waiker thin iver on account iv blaiding so much. Well, me frinds got me up to Dr. Magoon’s, in the morning, and he comminced operations. He gave me a tumbler iv rael hot stuff to dhrink, and thin he opened a laille-door where the stame was so thick you could n’t sae it, and tould me to be afther jumping in.

“What,” said I, “into this *stame car*—won’t she blow up and be afther scaling me?”

“Oh no,” said the docthor, “it is on the low prissure pranciple—no danger.”

So in I got, an’ off she wint at the rate of tin knots an hour. “’Arrah, docthor,” said I, “what is this afther baing, hanging up in haer—something to till how fast we travel by?”

“That is a thermometer,” he replied, “to till how warm it gits in there.”

“I comrehind,” said I, “ye till by it whin I am afther being cooked enough. Fath, ’an I think I shall be done through in a viry few minutes, if ye judge iv me as ye would of a cooked potartoe, for jist sae how the pailing is coming off iv me,” said I, rubbing the dead skan off in handfuls.

The faster the stame car wint, an’ the longer I was in it, the better an’ stronger I ground. “An’ is this a ‘course of midicine,’ docthor?” said I, “if it is, I should like to be after taking a course ivery day iv me life.”

“This is only the commincement,” said he; “we have got to take the *pailing*, as ye call it, off the inside as well as the outside, before ye are well.”

“The divil ye have,” said I, “an’ how will ye be afther doing it, phray—ye’re not gouing to sind a *stame car* up an’ down me *inclined plane*, an’ sure?”

“Not exactly the stame car,” said the docthor, “but some lobelia, which will answer ivery purpose.”

Well, afther I had stamed about fasteen or twenty minutes, they put me into a bed, an' gave me the lo-bailia. O, murtheration, what a dust it kicked up in me. Had I been in ould Ireland, I could have sworn that I had a dozen *black cats* [witches] in me. It kept me sick two or thrae hours, an' clained me all out as nice as a pace of tripe.

Afther I had vomited a good many times, I fild compleate, and said I, "Docthor, I shall not be afther baing sick inny more—I'll jist get into the stame car again, and thin I'll go hum."

"Ye can n't get up jist yet," said the docthor, "as ye will vomit once more."

"Oh no, docthor, I shall not be sick inny more—me stomach fales well intirely."

"Ye will certainly be sick once more," said he, "I know by the looks iv your eyes."

"Ye will be mistaken this time, docthor," said I, "for I know I shall not be afther baing sick inny more. Fath an' 'ouns, I could ate a bafe-stake with a good appe"—'O-ou-oug-ough-ough,' and out it poured again, in a strame the whole bigness iv me mouth."

"Did n't I tell ye that ye 'd vomit again?" said the docthor, laughing.

"Fath, an' ye did that same thing," said I. "Ye bate all docthors that iver came over, sure. Oh, I wish our oun swate Dan O'Connel was afther baing a Thomsonian!"

"Now dhrink this," said the docthor, bringing me a cupful of porridge, "and lay still a bit, for ye'll not be sick inny more."

So I jist laid meself doon for half an hour, and thin got into the stame car again for aboot fasteen minutes, which saimed to put new life into me, intirely. While I was in the stame, me ould women came to sae me, and was n't she afther baing alarmed though? "Oh, me goud man," said she, "I'm afeard that tirrible place will be afther kilting ye."

"Hout, tout, woman—a tirrible place did ye call it?" said I. "Fath, an' ye 'd not be for saying that if ye knoud inny thing aboot it"—an' I made be-laive as if I was aboot to pull her into the stame car. "Oh, murther, murther," she cried, and was oot iv the room in liss thin no time. I thin tould her I should be ready to go houn in the course iv an hour, and she said she 'd spake for a carriage. I tould her no, for I could walk as sthrong as ivei. But she in-sasted I was too wake intirely to walk, and off she wint to spake me a carriage.

Well, me frinds, in sax hours frim the time I wint to the docthor's so wake that I could jist mouve me throtters under me, I was riddy to go houn, and, by me sowl, I was so strong I could have danced a rale wid all aise.

Whin I got to the dour iv the Infirmary, to coom away, me ould woman met me, an' said she 'd ingaged a carriage to coom whiniver I was ready.

"Thin ye may jist be afther riding in it yerself, ould woman, for I shall go on me oun throtters," said I.

"Thin I'll be afther hilping ye along," said me kind woman, tiking hould iv me arm.

"Thank ye fir nuthing, me daer," said I; and fraing meself frim her, I jist tuk to me throtters wid all spaide—laiving me ould women far behind, crying oot, "Me goud man's crazy, he's crazy, that stame car has made him crazy;" but whin she got houn and foond I was *cured* instead of *crazed*, her graif turned to joy.

Well, me daer frinds, I had a goud night's slape an' the nixt day fild as well as iver I was in me life. I gained in stringth an' flesh ivery day, an' in a few wakes had gained seven pounds. I have not fild a pain nor an ache since I tuk the course of midicine. And I would now be afther saying to all iv me fellow counthrymen—to ivery trrue-hearted Irishman in this city, if ye wish to be cured whin sick, quick, chape, and sure, jist go to Doct. Magoon, at No. 40 Salem sthrate, an' I'll lay me head upon the block, that ye'll be cured in half the time that inny other docthor in Boston could do it.

If inny person wishes to know more aboot meself or me cure, let him call at No. 44 Endicott st., and inquire for

HUGH HOLOHON.

Boston, August 26, 1841.

REFLECTION.—If you would increase in wisdom, you must reflect. The mere sight of things amounts to nothing. A fool may go around the world and return a fool at last, because he has no reflection.—One man learns more from a molehill than another does from a mountain.

PURITY.—Purity of heart is of all others the most elevated of virtues. A Greek maid being asked what fortune she would bring her husband, answered, "I will bring him what is more valuable than any treasure; a heart unspotted, and virtue without a stain, which is all that descends to me from my parents."

Groans, convulsions, weeping friends, and the like, show death terrible; yet there is no passion so weak but conquers the fear of it; and therefore death is not such a terrible enemy. Revenge triumphs over death, love slights it, honor aspires to it, dread of shame prefers it, grief flies to it, and fear anticipates it.

The Post thinks the best contrivance for keeping people awake in church, is a clergyman who is wide awake himself.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *eighth volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the exertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *sixth volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass.

Boston, Mass., Sept. 1, 1841.

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

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 Acton, Robert Chaffin
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 Troy, Ira Wood

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Hightstown, Lawrence Taylor

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
 Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount, A. Willford

Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his **GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st.**


Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [better than those which have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their better medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves

a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against a gang in Blackstone street calling themselves Thomsonians, with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmary at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman, whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheeps' clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The Infirmary and Store at No. 40 Salem st. are superintended by Doct. NATH'L S. MAGOON. Good nurses are always in readiness to attend on the sick, either at the homes of the patients or at the Infirmary.

Doct. Magoon will attend in cases of Midwifery when required. There are also several experienced Midwives who hold themselves in readiness to attend to their vocation when requested.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

DR. THOMSON will furnish Agents with the above Medicine and Family Rights, at a liberal discount, for Cash, on application to him, or his Agent, at the General Depot and Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.  All letters must be *post paid* or they will not receive attention.


N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the *Crude Articles and Compounds* made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African cayenne, composition powder, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry, leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentery syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters, &c.

Having built an eight horse power Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

 The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct 1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.”—SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 21.]

From the Thomsonian Messenger.

AN ACROSTIC.

Mankind have tried a thousand various arts,
Intent on warding off death's fatal darts;
Nor have they yielded to fair reason's force,
Experience, fact, the sure, inductive course.
Research untired thro' nature's kingdom went,
And deathful agents from Earth' bosom rent.
Lo, brought from thence, our maladies to heal,
Potent and fierce, the ores whose curse we feel!
Of which we see th' inestimable gains,
In fever, useless limbs, and rackings pains.
Shall we much longer the foul sight endure,
Of things so fit to *kill*, displayed to *cure*?
No: let the sick try nature's gentler ways:
So shall their joyous health speak THOMSON'S
praise. J. H. G.

From the Botanic (Vt.) Advocate.

MERCURY,—AND ITS EFFECTS UPON THE HUMAN CONSTITUTION.

(Concluded.)

It would be well for those physicians, who talk about the inefficiency of vegetable medicines, to tell us why they resort to the use of croton oil, where calomel fails. Perhaps it will be as difficult for some of them to answer this question, as to tell us the propriety and goodness there is in the course which some of them take in regard to the reformed practice of medicine. Many of them condemn this practice, and call those who follow it a set of quacks, ignorant of medical science, and devoid of the common feelings of humanity. In speaking to others of the practice, they represent it as a system of practical nonsense, and base imposition.

Now it can be proved that these very men, some of them, have availed themselves of the advantages of the reformed practice, so far as mere accident has placed it within their knowledge: and this they have done too, in cases where their own practice has failed; and thus tacitly confessing in private, the superiority of the reformed practice, and taking every opportunity in public, to injure its honest good reputation.

We have nothing to say against these men, because they follow our practice; on the other hand, we are glad that they avail themselves of the means to relieve the sufferings of our fellow men; for it is evident that men whose profession it is to relieve the sick, should have a

knowledge of the safest and surest means to do it. We only say that it is ingratitude in them to use the means which they obtain from us, and then to slander and abuse us and our practice, because we use such means. We acknowledged what the regular faculty say in regard to calomel being a powerful article; and to strengthen their evidence of this fact, we will relate a striking example of its herculean power, which exhibited itself in the constitution of a small child.

The circumstances are as follows. A child in the town of———was taken sick in the evening; it had a high fever, &c. The parents, though usually in the habit of employing the regular calomel doctors, concluded that they would now, for the first time, try what virtue there is to be found in vegetable medicine.—They accordingly called in a Botanic Doctor, who, after inquiring into the case, left some medicine, and gave directions for its exhibition. He left, and the medicine was given as ordered, and had the desired effect. The next morning, the doctor called to see the child, he found it running about the room, engaged in eating a piece of bread, which it held in its hand. Notwithstanding the favorable situation of the child, the parents expressed some fears concerning it; thinking that it had got well too soon, for one so sick as it appeared to be, and that its apparent health was only illusory, and would last but a short time. The doctor assured them that the child was well and that it was unnecessary to give it more medicine. The Botanic Doctor then left, and in a short time the parents called in a regular doctor, to learn whether the child was well, or whether its health was only apparent. The doctor after making some inquiries, and ascertaining that a Botanic Doctor had attended assured the parents that the child was far from being well; that the fever would soon return unless something was done to prevent it. This was what they expected; the doctor was engaged to treat the case. He commenced his treatment regularly, by giving a dose of calomel, and ended it as regularly by giving a dose of the same; but from the commencement of this regular treatment the child grew worse regularly. It lay seven weeks, most of the time in a helpless and distressing situation. It was subjected to a regular course of cooling powders, which produced a severe salivation, giving some grounds to suspect that the cooling powders con-

tained some calomel. The mouth, gums, lips and cheeks were literally destroyed by mercury; and the prospect was no other than that of the grave. At this times, and while the child was in the above described situation, the father of the child went for the same Botanic Doctor who had treated and cured the child in the first instance. The doctor, with much reluctance consented to go; and after using rational means for a short time, the child got better, and finally recovered, with a disfiguration of the face which would ever after render life a burthen. Here is evidence of the power of calomel.

This is the substance of the account which we received from the mouth of the Botanic physician who treated the case, and who sustains a highly respectable character both for general intelligence and Christian virtue.—Many more cases of a similar kind might be related, but we shall only ask the indulgence of our reader while we submit a few remarks more upon this subject.

It is a common practice to administer mercury or calomel, to children laboring under an affection characterized by, at first, the usual symptoms of common cold or catarrh, followed by a scarlet eruption upon the skin, a swelling of the glands of the throat, oppression of the brain, &c. called scarlet fever in the book.—Now every physician should know, that in this disease there is a peculiar and strong tendency to diseased action in the glands of the mouth, and to functional disturbance in the brain. It would also seem that an uncommon quantity of the morbid poison, giving rise to this affection of the system, is determined to the above named parts, but not till a partial subsidence has taken place in the fever of the general system. Here it is evident that the irritation produced by mercury upon the salivary glands must add much to the affection of these parts, induced as a natural consequence of the disease. It must also increase very much the danger of inflammation of the brain, or rather the disease which causes the inflammation. For if the irritation produced by the mere extraction of a tooth be sufficient to induce an inflamed brain, how much more might we expect this result, from the extensive irritation excited, by salivation? Again, the action of calomel upon the internal surface of the bowels is that of a powerful chemical and mechanical agent, irritating these parts so much, as to determine so large a portion of nature's efforts to the regulation of this difficulty, that an insufficiency is left to act upon the external exhalents, for the removal of the morbid matter from the system. Here we would remark that the eruption upon the skin, in cases of measles, small-pox, scarlet fever, (as it is called,) and all other exanthematic disease, is caused by the determination

and lodgment of the poisonous matter, which is the immediate operative cause of the disease.—The inflammation of the skin is the process which nature takes to expel the poison, when it has reached the skin, and should this salutary process be checked by improper medical treatment, or by unforeseen accident, than a reversion of the poisonous matter takes place; that is, it recedes from the external surface, to the internal organs; and in this way sometimes proves fatal. This is what the good old women call the stiking in of the measles, &c.; to prevent which, they give warm teas internally, and apply external warmth; so that in this circumstance, as well as in a thousand others, they manifest their good sense and experimental knowledge so conspicuously that even the learned regular doctor might learn an important practical lesson from this source. How many children who have fallen victims to calomel, instead of scarlet fever, might have been saved by the more rational treatment of some good old lady!—But says our reader, you would not have it, that the old women are more successful in treating scarlet fever, than the regular doctors! Yes, kind reader, this is a notorious fact, to which thousands will bear testimony; and the reason is plain, because their remedies act more in accordance with the course which nature takes to cure disease. In cases of common continued fevers, calomel is exhibited in small and repeated doses for a considerable time, in order to obtain its specific effect upon the constitution, which is indicated by the common symptoms of salivation. In this way calomel is frequently administered under disguise, in order to deceive the patient and friends; or in other words, as the doctors say to take advantage of the patient's and friends prejudice. In this way it is given in the name of *cooling powders*, and thousands have been subjected to this mode of treatment, and been continued under it, till they have been cooled into the cold embraces of death! Beware then, of *cooling powders*, since they act in a direct opposition to nature. We know full well, the increased heat of the system in fever, is uncomfortable to the patient; but it is but a natural consequence of the increased action of the heart and arteries; and, as we have before said, this action is indispensably necessary, so long as the disease continues. For the sake of the real good, let us bear the apparent evil, with patience. It would be folly to complain of the sun, because his intense rays dazzle and pain our eyes when we look at him. In the treatment of the common summer complaint of young children, calomel exerts an extremely deleterious influence; and to conceive how this is the case, it is only requisite that we consider the nature and properties of the article, and the deli-

cate organization of the parts with which it comes in contact.

Every one at all conversant with the science of life knows that all the organs of the infant, are of extremely delicate texture; their structures are less able to withstand the influence of foreign or extraneous irritants, than the same structures in adults; that their food must be of the mild, and unirritating kind, to correspond with the weak powers, and highly sensible state of their stomach; that like the young and tender plant, it requires that their treatment, both in a physical and medical sense, be gentle, mild and attentive. Now, notwithstanding the apparent fineness of the compound particles of mercury, still when viewed with a microscope, they present sharp cutting edges and angular points. In this magnified state, they present their real shape, though not their true size; for however powerful the magnifying quality of the glasses may be it is impossible for them to give form and appearance to mere nothing. Then it must be admitted that by the aid of glasses we can learn the form of these small particles of mercury; and since it is a physiological truth that the solvent powers of the gastric juice, cannot change the form or quality of substances, it is very evident that the tender organization of the internal lining membrane of the infantile alimentary canal must undergo more or less of disorganization or decomposition. Instances are on medical record, which fully substantiate this doctrine. Thousands of young children have been sent to the dark and dreary mansions of the dead, by being subject to the violent and decomposing influence of mercury, who might have been saved by mild and rational treatment. How long shall this custom of human sacrifice to the mercurial god be continued in this civilized and enlightened country.

Let this subject, in common with others of less importance have a place in the serious reflections of every parent—of every philanthropist. Let no one who lays claim, to scientific knowledge, be destitute of a knowledge of the science of animal life, which is commonly termed Physiology. It is essential to the Preacher, the Lawyer, the Statesman, the accomplished scholar, the private gentleman, and finally to every one who regards his life and health. To the physician this knowledge is indispensable, and if he has it not, he is more liable to commit practical errors, which the world may justly regard as inexcusable, and which will be recorded in the public mind as errors of unpardonable ignorance.

Dr. Chapman, of Philadelphia, has given it as his opinion that mercury is a common cause of chronic hepatitis or liver complaint; and from its specific and powerful action upon the

liver, we have no reason to doubt the propriety of his opinion. The large quantities of calomel which are administered in common cases of continued fevers, are directly calculated to exhaust the powers of the liver, and thus produce in this organ functional derangement and chronic inflammation. Many of the most marked and aggravated symptoms which are indicative of what has been called *bilious fever*, are brought on by the action of the mercury? The biliary secretion of the liver, is morbidly increased by the action of this mineral; a large quantity of bile is accumulated in the *hepatic acina* or the biliary reservoirs of the liver. The debility caused by this over action renders the excretory vessels of the liver, unable to carry off this superabundance of secreted bile; the biliary absorbents which open upon the internal parietes of the biliary cells, act in relief of the distended cells, taking up the bile, and carrying it into the circulation, whence it is deposited under the skin and in the exterior coats of the eye. This is what gives rise to the peculiar symptoms of bilious fever, and calomel is one of the main exciting causes, as above explained.

This view of the influence of calomel will account in part for the great prevalence of liver diseases in the Southern and Western States, where mercury is given in such abundance.—But it is said that all that is said against the use of calomel is the result of vulgar ignorance and prejudice. This is said by many physicians especially the young and self-knowing. Now we would ask, are all who object to the use of this article, to be regarded as vulgar and ignorant? Must a large number of highly respectable and intelligent individuals who denounce the use of calomel and the lancet, be classed among the ignorant and vulgar, by a set of young conceited and self-sufficient bigots in medicine? No, the prejudices of these individuals are the products of that knowledge which they have derived from sound reason, and from careful observation and long experience; these prejudices have arisen from seeing the beauty and health of the young demolished by mercury, and frequently their lives destroyed by blood-letting!

The cause of medical reform, is the cause of the people, the cause of physical happiness, and the cause of humanity. We, who are engaged in it, view it in this light; and from this view of the subject we are constrained to persevere; to go forward regardless of the opposition of those who condemn every thing which is not popular; who would sooner support popular evil, than unpopular good; who assume the name of republicans, and deny every thing like true republicanism in their conduct. The efforts of such to injure the cause, will prove as ineffectual as falsehood against truth. Such

malicious attempts to injure a good cause, never fail to fall, from the specific gravity of their own evil, before they reach the cause towards which they are directed; and by the repulsive powers of good against evil, they are returned, to reward the original giver.

We shall now bring this part of our subject to a close, by merely remarking, that all we have said of the use and effects of the mercurial preparations, has been said in candor, and from that conviction of mind which has been produced by careful study and cool deliberation, and from experience and observation. Those who receive the same impression from the evidence which is given, as we have received; will think with us that mercury is productive of much evil, in many cases where it is exhibited as a medicine—that its operation on the human constitution is extremely deleterious under any circumstances—that it is not a specific for the cure of any disease, and where other medicines equally efficacious and void of danger can be used, calomel should be dispensed with. Now if our reader is not convinced of the propriety of the above conclusions, we shall have no reason to censure him, but we would merely say to him, that further investigation may discover new light, and bring arguments to view which have heretofore been behind the curtains of early education and prejudice. Truth like gold grows brighter by use, and its value will be the more duly estimated as its utility is the more plainly discovered.

From the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian,
DYSPEPSY.

A paper read before the 'New York State Thomsonian Medical Society' at its last annual meeting, by JUSTIN GATES, of Rochester.

Dyspepsy, according to Dr. Hooper as given in his Dictionary, and by most medical authors, and to which definition I here give my assent, is INDIGESTION. Dr. Gregory, one of the old school physicians, says of it—'it is certainly the most frequent of all diseases; it is met with in every country, in every class of society, in every season of the year; devoid of the danger that attends other diseases, it is nevertheless equally distressing to the patient, poisoning all the sources of enjoyment and leading in many instances to the most confirmed hypochondriasis. Long as it has been made the subject of inquiry by medical authors, it remains involved in much obscurity; the pathology of the disease is little understood, the methods of its treatment are still imperfectly known, and the most remarkable diversities of opinion are entertained regarding the extent to which it influences the production of other diseases.

Dyspepsy arises in persons of every adult age most usually however in those of middle age, of sedentary habits, or irregular mode of life, either as to habits of the table or other excesses. In such it makes its appearance gradually and unsuspectingly, fastens itself upon the unconscious patient, lessening his energy, undermining his powers both of mind and body, till at length the patient feels little or no power to throw off the incubus, or little inclination to use any exertion to accomplish the desired end. Among the particular causes which generally tend to produce these bad results, which are understood in the combination of evils included in the term Dyspepsy, are great grief, general uneasiness, close application to study *without exercise*, profuse evacuations, excess in venery, use of ardent spirits, tea, coffee, tobacco, and other narcotics, excess of the enjoyments of the table, and exposure to a moist and cold atmosphere: these are some of the causes which separately or in combination produce dyspepsy.

This disease when acquired is attended with a long train of disagreeable symptoms: among the nervous symptoms may be included loss of appetite, nausea, heartburn, flatulency, acidity of the stomach, a gnawing or constriction in the stomach, uneasiness in the throat, pain in the side and breast, pain on reclining on the left side, costiveness, habitual chilliness, paleness of the face, general languor, disposition to sit undisturbed, low spirits, palpitation of the heart, and we might in fact go on and enumerate the whole catalogue of disordered symptoms that inflict poor human nature, as showing themselves in this one disease; it is as it were a pouring out of Pandora's box of evils to curse this poor body of ours—but only for our violation of the physiological laws of our nature. Let it stand forth and be borne in mind, that no one was ever afflicted with this quintessence of disorders except as a punishment for his own reckless violation of the laws of his physiological existence.

The number of symptoms varies in the different cases, sometimes milder, sometimes more intense in suffering. The tongue is generally referred to as affording evidence of the state of the stomach, but it will often be found perfectly clean when the stomach is most foul.

In order to understand how dyspepsy becomes frequently a concomitant or cause of local disease in a distant part, we must advert to a few facts connected with the physiology of the stomach. There appears to be three important stages in the process of digestion, 1st, an intimate mixture of the food with certain fluids of the body, particularly the saliva and secretions of the stomach. It is probably that these have a higher office than merely lubricating the coats of the first passages, and moistening the food;

but physiologists are not agreed as to their exact operation. The notion of a chemical solution of the food in the gastric juice is still entertained by some, but it is at variance with the results of chemical analysis. It is not unreasonable to believe that the animal fluids act to a certain degree as ferments, approximating the food taken in to their own nature by means peculiar to the operations of life, but analogous to some acknowledged chemical phenomena. 2nd, Detention of the food in the cavity of the stomach for a certain length of time, which is brought in contact with its coats, and exposed to the influence of its nerves. Here that peculiar vital action is exerted upon the food which renders digestion so totally different from a chemical operation, and which actually suspends ordinary chemical agency. In this stage the food is reduced to its proper consistence as to fluidity, the absorbents of the stomach rapidly removing any superabundant fluid, and thirst being excited when the gastric secretions are insufficient for the due moistening of the mass. 3rd, The propulsion of the chyle into the duodenum, where it becomes mixed with the bile and pancreatic juice.

The length of time the aliment remains in the stomach has never been very accurately determined. It probably varies in different individuals according to the energy of the stomach, and in the same individual at different times according to the nature of the food and its greater or less facility of digestion: from three to fours is perhaps the average.—At the end of this period the pyloric orifice, which had previously been closed gradually dilates, so as to allow the mass of food to pass in the duodenum, the stomach remaining perfectly empty until the next meal. In the duodenum the chyme mixing with the bile and pancreatic juice, certainly remains a considerable time, and changes in it to take place which are necessary to the full completion of digestion.

From this brief statement of the steps in the progress of digestion, we shall be prepared to give an explanation of the several modes in which dyspepsy may be brought about. 1st It may depend upon a morbid state of the glands subservient to the digestive process. The saliva may be deficient. The gastric juice may be either deficient, or secreted in too large quantity, or vitiated in quality, whereby the coats of the stomach become enveloped with a thick tenacious mucus. And the bile may get into the stomach and there interfere with the first steps in the digestive process. 2d. It may arise from a morbid condition of the nerves of the stomach, or from general torpor or defect of the whole nervous system. 3rd. It may in some cases be owing to such morbid states of the muscular

coat of the stomach as cause the food to be detained too long there, or which hurry it too soon into the bowels. 4th. The dyspeptic symptoms may originate, independent of all disease in the stomach, from the the functions of the duodenum being imperfectly performed. Morbid accumulation in the duodenum is justly reckoned the immediate cause of that pain high up in the back which sometimes accompanies dyspeptic symptoms; but it is often observed independent of these symptoms.

All practitioners must acknowledge the necessity of distinctions among the numerous cases of dyspepsy, but great difficulties have been experienced in establishing any which may have a practical application, until found it the Thomsonian system of medicine.

If any ask, Why is it that dyspepsy has become so common, as comparatively few cases occurred until the last 30 or 40 years? I answer—Refinements of civilization—idleness. It seems scarcely to belong to the savage or barbarous condition, and is seldom met with among the laboring people of active occupations. Dr. Chapman says—‘As we deviate from nature in the cultivation of our sensibilities, moral or physical, or in our habits or pursuits, particularly in our modes of living, so are the exposures to it widened or multiplied. We should not probably have vitiated digestion any more than the brute creation, were it not for our artificial scheme of life. But in the present state of society it is so pervading that no age, sex or rank entirely escapes. The enormous consumption of tobacco in its several forms is a most common cause of dyspepsy. Certain I am, that at least a large proportion of the cases of it which come to me are thus produced. It is usually very obstinate, and sometimes of a truly melancholy character.

That this is true, I think I may safely affirm, having used the deleterious weed some 25 years; and now after abstaining from it almost two years, I am fully convinced of its injurious effects. I would not return to the use of tobacco, tea and coffee, to be continued through life for any earthly consideration. That dyspepsy is their legitimate offspring, I have no doubt. That even Thomsonians fail to cure it in some instances where patients are in the constant use of these narcotics, to me is evident; while a number of my acquaintances testify to me that they have been almost entirely relieved from dyspeptic complaints merely by dispensing with them.

Now for the confession of an honest M. D. at least for once. Dr. Chapman (before quoted) says—“Habitually taking drugs conduces to the same end, as the frequent repetition of emetics [antimony and other poisons of course] or pur-

gatives or opiates and other narcotics. Tampering with any medicine, so much the practice with some people, is very detrimental. Every ache or discomfort, real or imaginary, must be relieved by a recurrence to some supposed remedy, till finally the powers of the stomach are worn out, and derangement either functional or structural takes place. It would be salutary were such persons to bear in mind the epitaph of the Italian count, who fell a victim to this habit;—

“I was well,
Wished to be better,
Took physic—and died.”

Nor can the profession escape the imputation of lending its contribution to this mischief. Called to a case of disease of such obscurity that no distinct notion can be formed of it, we go on groping in the dark, pouring down drugs empirically, till the stomach gives way, and its derangements are added to the pre-existing affection, by which a case is made of greater complexity, and of enhanced difficulty of cure. It is not easy always to avoid this course, from the ignorance or prejudice of mankind. The predominant estimate of the profession, even among the most enlightened people, leads to the delusive supposition that the *Materia Medica* has a remedy for every disease, and that the want of success under any giving circumstances is owing to the poverty of resource of the practitioner in attendance. Confidence is soon withdrawn should he intermit his exertions, which perceiving he too often multiplies his administrations to avoid a dismissal, or to have imposed on him some one of the fraternity who it is expected will bring forth fresh supplies. The consultation taking place, the new armory of weapons is opened and applied with only an exasperation of the case. Not satisfied, however, further trials of others are made; there is a repetition of similar proceedings, and the catastrophe is complete. This, which might by some be suspected as a sketch of fancy, is a faithful and unexaggerated delineation of reality which I have frequently seen and deplored. Convinced that he was falling a victim to this very practice, the Emperor Adrian deliberately prepared as an inscription for his tomb—

“It was the multitude of physicians
That killed the Emperor.”

Having been engaged as a Thomsonian practitioner for a number of years, and having been called upon to prescribe in this as well as most other forms of disease, I have attentively examined the different symptoms by which dyspepsy is recognised: a diseased liver, constipated bowels, cold hands and feet, distressed feeling in the stomach after eating, at one time a want of and

at another too much appetite, restless nights, a want of healthy perspiration, water highly colored, piles, offensive breath, &c. Different cases of dyspepsy however put on different symptoms.

Treatment.—The patient must abandon tea, coffee, tobacco and other narcotics; then prepare the system for the administration of a course of medicine—such a course to consist of warm pungent teas, enemas, emetics, vapor bath, &c., to be repeated as often as the case may require. During intermissions proper stimulants should be given, accompanied with a well regulated diet. There is perhaps no form or stage of dyspepsy in which such a mode of treatment would fail to effect a cure.

From the Dover (N. H.) Morning Star.

DESTRUCTION OF CHILDREN

At the hand of their own parents, is by no means peculiar to those heathen countries where they are thrown to crocodiles and otherwise sacrificed to idols. In this country, children are destroyed, thousands of them, soul and body, by their parents, in the way they manage them in bringing them up.

Mr. H. O. Sheldon, in his lecture in this place a few weeks since, on the Lyceum system of Education, and with particular reference to the Lyceum School at Berea, Ohio—exposed the customary practice of checking the innocent bent of children towards imitations of useful industry or harmless recreation, and thereby turning them into vicious courses. He says, “the little girl sees her mother cut a garment, wash, or write a letter. She tries her skill at imitation. The first garment she finds is doused into the water; and the mother snatches it away. She gets the scissors and begins to cut paper. The mother snappishly exclaims, ‘Put up those scissors! you’ll stick ’em into you.’ She climbs up to the ink-stand and with pen or stick begins to mark on the Bible or any paper she can get. It is pulled away, and a box on the ear sends her squalling and bellowing around the house. In vain the nurse or mother scold—‘hush I say—shut up now.’ Presently a knock is heard at the door; ‘there, stop crying now, and I’ll give you something pretty.’ The neighbor enters; the child screams. A piece of pie, a sweetmeat, or the looking-glass and hammer, bribes to silence.

“The little boy goes among the mechanics. He begins to experiment; the young pear tree is hacked by his hatchet, and he gets a flogging. He finds a shingle and a knife, and begins to make his sled—‘put up that knife! I’ve just swept up; I won’t have you making a litter here.’ He next tries the fields, gathers his specimens in Botany and Geology, returns in

triumph, asks in eager thirst for knowledge, 'what is that?' The intelligent answer is, 'it's a weed; it's a stone.' Perhaps before he has time to ask his question he is driven from the house with 'carry them off! what do you bring them dirty things here for?' Repulsed in his efforts in these branches of science, he tries another. He finds a rill murmuring down the declivity. He builds his dam, erects his wheel, is pleased with his experiments, stays till a late hour, returns home—and gets a whipping in anger for going into the water and wetting his clothes, and a threat, 'if ever you do so again, I'll skin you alive.'

This living picture of ridiculousness were enough to make one laugh out, but for the cruelty and ruinous consequences of the almost universal management of children which it represents. The lecturer justly adds: "He next tries pitching marbles or coppers with idle, vicious boys, and escapes punishment. Here he learns mischief, idleness and vice."

INTEMPERANCE IN DRESS.

"God gave us clothes to hyde our nakednesse,
But wee bye them doe oure owne shame expresse."
BUNYAN.

"THE LADY'S BOOK."—Perchance, the other day, our eye caught the frontispiece of the Lady's Book, exhibiting the latest fashions, &c. Another look, and an article was discovered commending the number on account of the valuable information communicated to the ladies, through the instrumentality of the picture. Again we rolled our eye over the frontispiece, where we saw figures of ladies cramped in their feet by a shoe not half so wide as nature requires, and so thoroughly laced in corsets as to exclude from the region of the waist every viscus—as to leave no room for any thing but the mere spine, and the compressed fibres of those vessels which unite the thorax with the abdomen.

Alas! thought we, let us hear no more of the improvements of this improving age—far less of the superior sense of the ladies of our day. Let us hold our tongues about the trifling sin of intemperance, while this withering curse, that yearly slays its millions, is hugged as a viper to the bosom, and hawked about in the most popular journals as one of the greatest ornaments of the fairer portion of our race. For shame, that such things should find the least countenance with those who boast of intelligence and independence.

Is there a man in the land who does not want a sickly wife—one totally unfit to enjoy life herself, or to promote the happiness of those around her—who does not want his children strangled

ere their birth, or born to breathe and expire? Is there a father who would not see his lovely daughter cut down in the morning of life, by disease induced or rendered fatal by art? Is there a brother who would not follow a dear and perhaps an only sister to the grave of the suicide? Is there a mother who would not, by turning her own house into mourning, become the destroyer of her own peace—the wretched cause of her own most bitter lamentations? Is there one young man in the land, who, while he fain would gather to his bosom the most delicate of the flowers, so rapidly wasting its sweetness around him, would not at the same time, encourage the approach of a monster that would crush it to atoms ere he scarcely had tasted that sweetness? Let them all with one mind—one voice irresistible—set their faces, like shields of flint or steel, against the introduction into their dominions of these destructive fashions, and any and every thing that favors their admission.

We care not how many good articles may appear in the Lady's Book. It cannot contain good enough of any description, to counterbalance the evils which that plate alone is calculated to produce. Avoid it, girls as you would the scorpion's sting. Be assured that he who with understanding fully open to the evils of tight lacing, could desire you to become its victim, is fitter for your murderer than your lover.—[Botanico Medical Recorder.

SPEAK THE TRUTH.—Always speak the honest truth. Never equivocate.—You will then relate things with confidence, feeling assured that you are believed. You will never find occasion to say for effect, "It certainly is so,"—"I am in earnest now,"—"You may depend upon what I say,"—"I declare it is the truth,"—and the like. No, you will never have occasion to add to the truth. You will sustain good characters among your friends—and they will feel a confidence in all that you do, which will greatly add to your usefulness. They will look up to your opinion and advice, on occasions when most intimate acquaintances are not consulted. Your words will have weight with them.—They will feel safe when by your side; knowing that no deception is in your eye—no malice is in your heart. Whenever you speak you will command attention, and people will attentively listen to catch the words as they drop from your mouth.

Without a friend, the world is but a wilderness. A man may have a thousand intimate acquaintances, and not a friend among them all. If you have one friend, think yourself happy.

FASCINATION.

The sympathetic power of fascination is a most unaccountable phenomenon. It is well known that in regions infested with venomous snakes, there are persons endowed both by nature and by art with the power of disarming the reptile of his poisonous capacities. The ancient Cyrenaica was overrun with venomous serpents, and the Pshilli were a tribe gifted with this faculty. Bruce informs us, that all the blacks in the kingdom of Sennaar are perfectly armed by nature against the bite of either scorpion or viper. They take the cerastes, or horned serpent, (one of the most venomous of the viper tribe,) in their hands at all times, put them in their bosoms, and throw them to one another as children do apples or balls; during which sport the serpents are seldom irritated to bite, and when they do, no mischief ensues from the wound. It is said that this power is derived from the practice of chewing certain plants, and this is probably the fact; these substances may impregnate the body with some quality obnoxious to the reptile. The same traveller has given an account of several of these roots. In South America a similar practice prevails, and a curious memoir on the subject was drawn up by Don Pedro d'Ordies y Vargas, detailing various experiments. He informs us that the plant thus employed is the *vejuco de gauco*, hence denominated from its having been observed that the bird of that name, also called the serpent hawk, usually sucked the juice of this plant before his attacks upon poisonous serpents. Prepared by drinking a small portion of this juice, inoculating themselves with it, by rubbing it upon punctures in the skin, Don Pedro himself, and all his domestics, were accustomed to venture into the fields, and fearlessly seize the most venomous of the tribe.—Acrell, in the *Amanitates Academicæ*, informs us that the *Senega* possesses a similar power. The power of fascinating serpents is so great, that, according to Bruce, they sicken the moment they are laid hold of, and are exhausted by this invisible power, as though they had been struck by lightning, or an electrical battery. Dr. Mead, and Smith Barton, of Philadelphia, endeavor to explain this power by the influence of terror. This supposition, however, is not correct, since the serpent will injure one man, and not another, if the latter is gifted with this faculty and the former one is not. Thieves have been known to possess the power of quieting watch-dogs, and keeping them silent during their depredations. Lindecrants informs us that the Laplanders can instantly disarm the most furious dog, and oblige him to fly from them with every expression of terror. Several horse-breakers have appeared at various periods possessing the same art, and they would make the wildest horse follow them as tamely as a dog, and lie down at their bidding. It is most probable that these charmers derive their power from some natural or artificial emanation. The most singular power of fascination is, perhaps, that exhibited by the jugglers of Egypt, who, by merely pressing the serpent called *haje*, on the neck, stiffen the reptile to such a degree, that they can wave it like a rod.—[Curiosities of Medical Experience.]

EFFECTS OF KINDNESS.—In one of the menageries exhibiting at Brighton races, (says a London paper,) was a striped hyena, which, to the keeper and every one around him, exhibited the usual ferocious habits, which have hitherto been considered inherent in animals of this kind. Among the spectators was a young man who fearlessly approached the animal's den, whilst it was snarling and snapping most furiously, and putting his hand through the wires, patted the animal on his head. In an instant the hyena exhibited symptoms of the greatest delight, bounded about the cage in an ecstasy of joy, and rubbed himself against the young man's hand, appearing overjoyed with his caresses. It appeared that this animal had been taken, when a cub by this young man, and brought by him to England, and sold to a keeper of a menagerie; and although seven years had elapsed since the animal and the first master had parted, yet the recollection of the gentle treatment he had received from the latter was gratefully and instantly remembered by this generally, though now it appears erroneously supposed, untameable animal.

THE YANKEES.—In 1782 or 1783, a Hingham sloop of about forty tons burden, commanded by Captain Hallet, sailed from Boston, intended for Canton, loaded with ginseng root, but put into Cape of Good Hope. There were lying there some English ships, bound home from Canton, the captains of which did not feel pleased that the enterprising and daring Yankee should go to Canton, and offered to give him two pounds of hyson tea in exchange for one pound of ginseng root. Captain Hallet accepted the offer, sold all his ginseng root, loaded his sloop with tea, and returned to Boston, having made a very profitable voyage. This is supposed to have been the first attempt of the Americans to commence the Canton trade.

A PICTURE.

The farmer sat in his easy chair,
Smoking his pipe of clay,
While his hale old wife, with busy care,
Was clearing the dinner away.
A sweet little girl, with fine blue eyes,
On her grand-pa's knee, was catching flies.

The old man placed her hand on his head,
With a tear on his wrinkled face—
He thought how often her mother dead,
Had sat in the same, same place.
As the tear stole down from his half shut eye,
Don't smoke, said the child, 'how it makes you cry !'

The house-dog lay stretched out on the floor,
Where the sun, after noon, used to steal—
The busy old wife, by the open door,
Was turning the spinning wheel—
And the old brass clock on the mantel-tree,
Had plodded along to almost three ;

Still the farmer sat in his easy chair,
While close to his heaving breast,
The moistened brow and the head so fair,
Of his grand-child were prest :
His head bent down, on her soft hair lay—
Fast asleep were they both, on that summer day !

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 15, 1841.

MONGRELISM.

We see by our exchange papers that a child in Philadelphia, a few days since, lost its life by having Croton Oil administered to it, by its mother. It seems the child was unwell and its mother intended to give it *Castor Oil*, (which is injurious enough in its effects,) and having none in the house, went to Dr. Armstrong's Drug store, in Sixth street, to get some, and that by mistake the poison was put up for her, which caused the death of her child. But the mischief does not stop here. Thomsonism has to take a rub from some of the papers that notice this sad accident. They say, the mother purchased this poison at "the *Thomsonian Drug Store, of Dr. Armstrong.*" Dr. A. is no Thomsonian, if he were he would never have kept poisons for sale.

There are many people in community who have not honesty enough to go by their own names, and do business under it; but they adopt that of some other individual as a passport to the confidence of the community in which they reside; some person whose labors have proved a blessing to the world. There are many people of this stamp who are now deceiving people under the "*Thomsonian*" standard, and as people are slow to enquire for themselves, they daily suffer by the impositions of these unprincipled men.

Doctor Thomson has given these people, the very appropriate name of *Mongrels*—it is applicable to them because of their mixing the two medicines together, so as to destroy the virtues of his own, and cause it to receive the blame which justly belongs to the other.—They are, generally speaking, men who make use of both systems as far as they are acquainted with them, and they pretend to be great sticklers for that system which

has proved of so much benefit to mankind, viz: the *THOMSONIAN*. By such men, Thomsonism is often brought into disrepute, and their practice in a great measure, prevents its more general adoption.

Wherever Doctor Thomson's medicines have been used, none of the deadly effects have followed them which often result from the *mongrel* and *mineral* medicines; but on the contrary, they promote health and strength; they remove disease, and assist nature in doing her work, instead of retarding her operations. We are aware, however, that Thomsonians have lost patients; but their deaths could not be attributed to the medicines. No—they were people who had received their death blow from the mineralites, and when given over by those gentry, have applied to the Thomsonian; and by the soothing qualities of his prescriptions their feeble frame has been relieved of its tormenting pains, and their few days made comfortable till the last moment; and when the flame expired, no horrid contortions were the visible evidences of a painful death.

A *Thomsonian* will never keep poisonous articles for sale, and there is no danger of his causing the death of any one, even if he sell the wrong medicine through mistake. The reader, we hope will bear this in mind. When you go to purchase any medicine, if you find that the vender of that medicine has poisons, drastic purges, or dye (*die*) stuffs, for sale also, set him down as a *mongrel* and not a *THOMSONIAN*, and for the sake of safety do not make a purchase of him. If you *want* poisons go to the man who is honest enough to let people know that he is of the poison school, and that he is a dealer in such articles, and there you may be sure of being served to your liking. But when you want poisons, don't expect to find them at the *Thomsonian shop*.

Doctor Thomson has always been opposed to admitting the mineral doctors and apothecaries into the Thomsonian ranks, and refused to sell them Rights and give them agencies. But notwithstanding his precaution, some have come into the party, and have injured the cause. Some have adopted his name, and many there are, who make use of some of his prescriptions. But, we would ask if that makes them Thomsonians? We think not. If a man keep articles which are not approved of by Thomson, but are denounced by him because of their deleterious effects on the patient, he is no Thomsonian. And any man who is true to the principle of *right*, when he finds that the founder of the Thomsonian system is doing all he can to make that system perfect, by abandoning the

use of articles that he has found by practice and investigation to do more evil than good, will do one of two things: he will either do Doct. Thomson the honor and justice of following his advice, and drop the use of those articles also, or drop his name altogether.

But in vain does Samuel Thomson work for his system, when those who profess to be his supporters almost wholly adopt the old practice. The medical faculty can but rejoice to see how far their own scheme of "*Death to the Thomsonian System,*" is carried out by the ignorant and dishonest professors for it. When they are aware that many who declare themselves Thomsonians, keep articles for sale that are almost as poisonous as arsenic, and pursue a course of treatment which tends as much to reduce the patient, as the use of the lancet does, how must they rejoice to see those who bear its name, more effectually killing it, than themselves ever could have done.

Doctor Samuel Thomson is now far advanced in life;—his labors have been useful, and many a death-doomed subject are indebted to him for life and health. And shall not his mode of practice be handed down to posterity in the purity and simplicity which he approves of? We hope it may, and that his life which has been so replete with usefulness for his fellow-man, and of fatigue and ingratitude to himself, may end in peace and quietness, should be the sincere wish of those whom he has benefitted. Let all who adopt the name which he has immortalized, use such articles for their medical agents as he approves, and only such.

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

OIL OF CROTON.

Although the Oil of Croton, commonly called Croton Oil, is familiarly known by many as a medicinal agent, yet it may not be uninteresting to our readers to lay before them a detailed account of its properties, &c.

We are informed by Hooper that the Oil of Croton is the produce of a shrub or plant well known to Botanists, and the oil, when taken into the stomach, acts as a powerful cathartic. The shrub belongs to the class Monoecia, and order Monadelphia, of Linnaeus's sexual system.

Persoon enumerates eighty-two species of this genus of plants. Its specific character is, "the leaves are ovate, smooth, acuminate, serrated, and the stem aborescent."

It is a native of the East Indies, China, and other Australasian islands. Ceylon and the Moluccas are

particularly quoted as affording this species of Croton. It is also well known in Ambuyna and Batavia, and generally through the distant East.

The powdered root of Croton is a drastic cathartic, when exhibited in the small quantity of even a few grains. The Asiatics, we are informed, considered it a grand remedy for *dropsy*! upon the same principle by which the operation of scammony and gamboge is explained.

The seeds of the plant appear to be best known as a *medicine*! and employed as such by the irregular faculty. The date of its medical use is as far back as Serapion, one of the earliest physicians of Arabia, who wrote on the *Materia Medica*, and flourished in the neighborhood of one thousand years ago.

As is the custom of the present day, this article was not only employed to *cure* folks, but it was also employed to *kill* them! The present day affords evidence of "scientific" remedies possessing ample virtue to kill, and those whom the doctors of the poison faculty call empirics, know the certain remedy when life is no longer considered a blessing, and apply a dose of one of their *active* medicines.

After this active remedy had become celebrated for its destructiveness and its activity in producing fatal results, it was introduced into Europe, and known by the name of "Molucca grains or seeds, and as the grains or seeds of Tilium or Tiglium."

Croton Tiglium appears to be the "systematic" name of the plant which affords the pavana wood and tiglia seeds, which is used by our learned doctors of the present day in cases of obstinate constipation, and it appears from the following extract, that it must be, in the true sense of the word, an article well deserving a place in the *materia medica* of the mineral faculty, as no one, not learned in the poison art, would attempt its use other than the application named below.

"It appears that they (the baked or roasted seeds of the Croton Tiglium) were freely administered, not merely for the purpose of a cathartic, but for the accomplishment of mischievous or deleterious ends. It is even stated by the accomplished Rumphius, the Dutch physician and botanist, that a dose of *four grains* had been administered for the working of destruction by women who wished to kill their husbands. Though the seeds were freely administered at that age, and after, the *extreme* violence of their operation seems to have induced a very unfavorable opinion of them."

When the article had fairly exploded its medical property, by its frequent application, its bad effects and injurious tendency condemned its use, and it was no longer used as medicine. We are, however,

informed, that Mr. E. Conwell, of the English East India Company's service, was the means of reviving the use of this article, (Croton Oil,) having used it for many years. He sent a parcel of it to London for experiment, and there can be no doubt it proved a scientific remedy, and well adapted for the secret mystery that pervades the craft of learned poisoners, who leech, cup, and bleed, the deluded part of mankind, not only out of their money, but their health and life are a prey to their vanity and arrogance.

One drop, we are told, if applied to the tongue of *some* constitutions, or in other words, a *mere particle*, is sufficient to produce a cathartic effect. A *single drop*, or *two*, at most, is a sufficient dose! We are told the *safe* method is to take the pills, viz.:—each to contain *one* drop, with a crumb of bread; or, for more expeditious practice, the prescriber may prepare them containing two drops. We are told “that in cases where there is aversion to taking medicines, and where the bulk and repetition of the doses are objectionable, this remedy (Mark!) possesses advantages which highly recommend it.” The same writer says, “the quantity of even half a drop, or in other words, (to be more scientific,) half a grain, will frequently move the intestines to discharge! Four drops applied to the *umbilicus*, by using friction, will produce a brisk cathartic. Externally applied, it produces inflammation.”

This article is employed by the mineral faculty, notwithstanding its activity, as they term it, and is recommended as highly advantageous on account of its minute quantity in cases where large doses of “medicine,” or frequent repetition is necessary; with the same propriety we might recommend *arsenic*, *prussic acid*, and other deleterious and deadly agents, used by the mineral faculty. But reason and experience teach us that an agent, to be efficient in removing disease, must be clear of poisonous or deleterious properties. There is as much medicinal virtue in arsenic, prussic acid, or indeed any article possessing poison or deleterious effects on the animal economy, as there is in Oleum Tiglii, (Oil of Tiglium,) or in felling a man to the ground in order to restore him to health. A safe remedy, we consider under all circumstances, is such a one as will act in harmony with the laws of life, and whether taken into the system by the direction of a learned fool or an ignorant fool, the result will be the same. Any article that is known to possess *medical virtues*, sufficient to destroy life, is better calculated to murder and destroy, than for any other purpose, and we defy all the learned, proud, and prejudiced, to prove that a poison can be a medicine, or that which is destructive to the healthy condition of the human sys-

tem, can be applied with safety and success when laboring under disease. What would the mineral faculty say in regard to a society, which, in order to redeem drunkards from the pernicious effects of alcoholic drinks, should prescribe opium? Of the two evils, which is preferable? We answer, the former. It is much wiser to trust to nature, than to trust to that which is known to be opposed to her laws. A man who employs a remedy that creates disease in a well person, must of all men be ignorant of the laws that govern life and health, and should be the last to pretend to a knowledge of medical science. But it appears that the most ignorant pretenders of the healing art are the most celebrated for their skill. This can only be accounted for by the fact, that not one in a hundred give the subject of medicine a thought. Thus it is, that the greatest knaves and fools become the greatest doctors.

From the same.

MELANCHOLY AFFAIR.

Our duty to the public, as well as the interest of the Thomsonian system of medicine, requires that we should disguise nothing that is necessary to the general good. On reading the following inquest, we would be doing the public injustice were we not to notice it. It has been our task to be alone in the advocacy of pure Thomsonism, and opposing amalgamation from whatever source it may come, believing the remedies employed in the Thomsonian system the best known; and as far as experience goes, it is admitted by all that the remedies are calculated to carry out the principles upon which the curative process of the system is based. This being established, it will be admitted by every intelligent mind, that an “improvement” in the system could only be established by the discovery of one or more efficient agents possessing superior medical virtues to those already discovered by Dr. Thomson. This would undoubtedly be an improvement, and every one in the practice would be morally compelled to acknowledge it to be such. But as no article has yet been discovered superior to No. 1, as an emetic, No. 2, as a pure stimulant, etc., it would therefore be the height of folly in us to attempt the advocacy of nonentity. That the work of any man is beyond improvement, no sane mind will admit, but every one who has studied well the Thomsonian system, must admit that no improvement has, in the true sense of the word, been effected. But it is easily accounted for, why pretensions to improvement are held forth, when we discover the improvers to consist of those who have adopted *other* means

than those belonging to the Thomsonian practice. The following catastrophe fully portrays the improvements, while its tendency operates against the Thomsonian practice. To cut this matter short, we will state that no purgatives are employed in the Thomsonian practice, they are excluded altogether; and any individual who prefers Thomsonian treatment, may rely on the fact that whoever administers cathartics is not a Thomsonian, but a Botanic; a class of practitioners of another order, and as opposite in their treatment as those of the mineral faculty, who pretend to have certain remedies for certain diseases.

There is no remedial agent employed in the Thomsonian practice that would destroy life through ignorance or mistake. The public, on perusing the following, would entertain an erroneous opinion in regard to the article "Croton Oil," as being a Thomsonian remedy: but we assure them that an article of such a character is as foreign to a Thomsonian medicine store, as calomel, prussic acid, tartar emetic, antimony, or any other poison used by the mineral faculty. And to say that the man who vends such an article is a Thomsonian, is a violation of truth, and portrays either ignorance or wilful deception. The Thomsonians are willing that their principles and practice shall receive the strictest scrutiny, but it must be understood that no Thomsonian store keeps an article as medicine, that possesses poisonous or deleterious properties, much less an article so violent in its effects as that of Croton Oil. Remember this, and you will have no fear of being poisoned or physiced to death. We hope this will serve as a warning to every one who wishes Thomsonian medicine, not to trust their life with those, who, under the name of Thomsonian, are destitute of its principles. We have long endeavored to guard the public against ignorant and unprincipled pretenders, and although our admonitions in this respect have had a happy effect, still it behooves us to advance the importance of keeping clear of those deus that are calculated to mislead the innocent and bring into disrepute the well earned laurels that deck the brow of the venerable patriarch Thomson, and discourages those whose services to mankind would be productive of the happiest results. Honesty is the best policy, and those who practise deception must sooner or later meet their reward.

"CORONER'S INQUEST.


"An inquest was held by Alderman Hoffner, for the Coroner, on Saturday, in a house in Elizabeth street, near Seventh, on the body of a child named Francis Johnson, seven weeks old, who came to his death by having Croton Oil administered to him, in

mistake for Castor Oil. From the evidence before the jury, it appeared that the child being sick, the mother went to the Thomsonian drug store of Dr. Armstrong, Sixth street, near Pine, for some castor oil. The doctor's wife gave some liquid to the mother, who went home and administered about a teaspoonful to the child. Immediately afterwards the child was in strong convulsions. Drs. Armstrong and Humphreys were sent for, and several remedies were administered to the child, but without effect. It expired in great agony a short time after. As soon as the child was dead, Dr. Armstrong gave a certificate, stating that the child died of convulsions, told the mother to bury it as soon as possible, and not to say any thing about it. The mother of the child was a white woman, and the father a colored man. It is said that the mother of the child is the daughter of highly respectable parents in the interior of this State, and ran away from a boarding school. Verdict of the Jury—"That Francis Johnson came to his death by his mother administering Croton Oil, in mistake for Castor Oil, purchased by her for Castor Oil, at the drug store of Dr. Armstrong, in Sixth street, above Pine, from the doctor's wife."

"A post mortem examination of the body was made by Dr. Dunott, the result of which was, the stomach and adjoining viscera were found in a highly inflamed condition, and the brain in a state of congestion. The conduct of Dr. Armstrong, in this matter, is highly reprehensible."—[Public Ledger.]

It is one of the most curious laws of life, that there is not a particle in any organized body that can fulfil its functions beyond a certain length of time. It must then be removed from the body, and another deposited in its place by the blood vessels; so that in a few years, there will not remain in your own person one atom that now assists in forming your bones, muscles, brain, or any other portion of your frame!

You will be the same if you live, and yet another! for you will be composed of new materials. You can no longer be surprised that an animal whose organization is perfected, requires nearly as much food to support that organization, as a younger one in which many of the organs are still in the act of growing.—[Coates's Physiology.]

 The Botanic Medical Reformer, will oblige us, by sending No. 7, Vol. 1, of that periodical. We want it to bind, it never came to us. Two copies of No. 8, was received, one of which we returned.

When we purchased Dr. S. Thomson's "Book and Right" from the regular appointed Agent, Frederick Plummer, and paid him twenty dollars for the same, we were told, that should Dr. Thomson make any "New discoveries or Improvements," we, as a matter of course, would receive them *gratis*, as part and parcel of the contract. So far we have never been favored with any of the "Improvements," either in the shape of Compounds or any thing else on the score of said "Book and Right." Are we entitled to the improvements friend "Manual," or are we not?—[Botanic Medical Reformer.

☞ Like a true Yankee, we will answer friend "Reformer" by asking him two other questions.—Have you not got *more* than twenty dollar's worth of information from the "Book and Right"? and would you go back to the ignorance that "book" has saved you from for a much larger sum of money?

We think the agent exceeded his orders when he made you those promises. You must think Dr. Thomson possessed of the wealth of the Indies and more philanthropy than a Howard, if you expect him to give away his new book. If you are a "Right Holder," read the *Agreement* on page 4, of the "Guide to Health," which Samuel Thomson enters into with all those who purchase "Rights," and are true to him. If you stick to Thomsonism, he will give you any necessary information, as he there agrees; but, if you go the mongrel, following partly Thomson, partly the old system, a little of Beach, and some of H. Howard, he will most likely have as little as possible to do with you. He is a great stickler for *Thomsonism*, as taught by Doctor Samuel Thomson.

DOCTOR THOMSON'S RULES.

Doct. Thomson, seeing the iniquity there was in those who had been in the mineral practice, and thinking they would mix the medicines for the purpose of making money, or killing his system, refused to have any thing to do with them. He refused their requests for Rights and agencies, and gave his agents rules to follow in such cases. But with all his care for his system and the people, there are many who are every day imposed upon by pretenders and mongrels. Here follow his rules:—

"Three things are to be observed by agents, viz:

1. "To do justice to the proprietor, yourself, and the public.

2. "To sell no Rights to *doctors*, or those who have studied their authors for a rule of practice; as they will most assuredly corrupt the System, as several have already done.

3. "To keep no poisonous drugs in your shop, as no one should sell to others what he would not use himself, nor recommend to be used; or suffer any

human blood to be shed, with the lancet or otherwise, by your consent."

All honest people will agree that no *poisons* should be kept where *medicines* are sold. How much of misery would this rule prevent, were it strictly followed by all who pretend to sell either. The following, from the Botanic Medical Reformer, is worth remembering:—

CAUTION! CAUTION!!

We copy the following communication from the "Botanico-Medical Recorder," of June 26, 1841, and commend it to the serious consideration of the friends of Botanic and Thomsonian Medicines. A friend showed us, a few weeks ago, a lot of Cayenne, bought from a botanic, which on examination was found to contain a large quantity of VERDIGRIS? We leave the public to pronounce sentence on such nefarious transactions. We have always been of the opinion that the Botanic as well the Thomsonian medicines should be kept separate, and under no considerations ought we to encourage Apothecaries in vending our medicines. If such practices are persisted in, what will be the state of the Vegetable Practice in a few years to come? We opine its degradation and downfall. It may possibly add a few extra dollars to the coffers of those persons engaged in this practice, but they will have the extreme mortification of beholding the structure which they, in the early part of their career, heralded to the world as like unto the temple of Apollo, whose mighty superstructure they raised to the heavens, and whose magnificent glories the pen of the poet, and easel of the painter, failed to portray the crumbling into dust,—its massive pillars decaying by the festering influence of *their own breath*.

If the friends of the Botanic System wish to preserve the wholesome mode of practice which they have adopted, and keep inviolate its fundamental principles, they must discontinue every thing like an amalgamation of poisonous drugs with innoxious vegetable medicines.

"I would like to hear your opinion on the druggists of the United States selling medicine of the botanic order. I think no botanic should buy of a druggist. I should like to see something relative to this matter in the Recorder. I think the cause is to be injured in this country by the like.

"GEO. W. FIELD.

"*Liberty, Mo., May 20, 1841.*"

"We do believe that, as a general rule, it is not safe to buy botanic medicines of the regular apothecaries. They are liable to be poisoned by the accidental dropping of a portion of the scientific Samsons. Whether by accident or not, cayenne bought of apothecaries has been found adulterated with red lead, and ginger with corn meal. But we have not much confidence in the moral honesty of men, who, for filthy lucre, will sell, in this enlightened age, poisons for medicines, to any one that will buy them. Besides, if any thing can be honestly made by dealing in genuine medicines, it should be conscientiously given to those who have suffered for their adoption of truth and adherence to its dictates."—[Dr. Curtis.

As conductors of a public journal we feel it our

duty to lay bare every species of imposition and quackery that comes within our knowledge, whether in our own ranks, or the ranks of the mineralizers, or *self made* M. D.'s.

☞ The following letter from a gentleman in Virginia, to Doctor Thomson, shows the manner in which Thomsonism is brought into disrepute by the "Regulars," and "Counterfeiters," under the pretence that their compounds are as good as those made by Thomson. We hope those in this vicinity, who have been so free of their abuse on Doctor Thomson, will read it attentively, for in it they will see their actions brought to light.

Doctor Samuel Thomson,

Sir:—I take this opportunity to inform you that I was lately in Richmond, Va. and having occasion to step into an apothecary's shop, I saw a large quantity of No. 6, Composition, and other articles, called "Thomsonian Medicines" for sale. I enquired where they were made, and was told "in Boston, by Doctor Thomson himself." I denied that it was so—bought some on purpose to try it. At home, I prepared some of the composition in a tea, and it was so different from that which I had of you, that I was near concluding it was altogether a mistake, and that it was not intended for composition. I threw it into the fire. I then examined the No. 6, found it no better, and disposed of it in the same way. I went into three Drug stores there, and found what they had what they called, *your* medicines, in all of them. Indeed, all our country stores have what they call "*Genuine Thomsonian Medicines*" for sale. But what I have seen of them, is as different from yours, as chalk is from cheese. In fact, much of it, which I have tried, is absolutely dangerous, being strongly adulterated with mineral poisons.

So little is known of the *genuine*, and so much of the spurious has been sold and tried, that it is difficult to find any sale for the former. This is the step which the mineralites have taken to bolster up their own poisons, and to bring your practice into disrepute. And it is the most effectual one they could possibly have adopted. Their success in it has given the people an unwillingness to run any further risk in the purchase of medicines. I can hardly persuade them that mine is *certainly genuine*,—that song has been sung to them too often already—all who sell to them sing it. The mineralites have the advantage of us on this point. We cannot make their drugs any more poisonous than they already are. But I am determined to give away my present stock, in order to get the people to try it.

My neighbor, Col. J. M. Harris, lately purchased a quantity of medicines in Scottsville, (a village in Albemarle co.) but on mixing the composition he discovered it had a strange appearance, and refused to give it. I was at his house shortly afterwards, and showed him some I had got from you. He compared it with his, and then bought all I had with me.

The country is full of this adulterated stuff,

and if ever your system and your medicines are put down, it will be through the sale of this stuff. The people are told it is as good and pure as you can make it,—they believe it, try it, find it dangerous, discard it, and become opponents to the Thomsonian practice! Can nothing be done to suppress the sale of this spurious stuff?

Respectfully yours, A. S. THOMAS.
Log Hall, Va., Aug. 20th, 1841.

THOMSONIAN LECTURES.—We learn that Doctor C. F. GRAY, commenced a course of lectures on Thomsonism, in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., on the evening of the 1st inst. We have heard Doctor Gray, very highly spoken of as a lecturer, and as an able advocate for the cause, and hope soon to have the pleasure of hearing him in this city, as we understand he has been invited to visit Boston and repeat his lectures.

ANOTHER NEW PERIODICAL.—We have received a Prospectus issued by Drs. W. S. Johnson, of Milton, Wm. Warren, of St. Albans, and S. N. Briggs, of Starksborough, in Vermont, for issuing a periodical to be called "*The Green Mountain Watch and Thomsonian Reporter*." The editors propose to open their paper to the "Regulars," that they may discuss the merits of their system, if merit it have, with Thomsonians. Go ahead, gentlemen, we wish you success.

☞ We are glad to learn by the "Thomsonian Messenger," that it is going a-head finely. Mr. Lyman makes an able paper, we peruse it with pleasure, and are sure it will do good.

☞ A friend, well versed in THOMSONIAN TRUTH, has handed us the following with a request that we publish it in our columns. This we do, and advise our readers to judge of its worth—and also, advise them to examine all subjects. We may be called "an interested party," but we say, examine, examine for yourselves!

DOCT. MATTSO'S RECEIPT TO MAKE WINE BITTERS.

Take of poplar bark, 6 lbs.—golden seal, 2 do.—balmony, 2 do.—sculcap, 1 do.—unicorn root, 1 do.—cayenne, 3-4 do.—prickly ash seed, 1-2 do.—cinnamon, 1 do. Boil it in four gallons of water to three gallons, strain it off and add 20 lbs sugar, scald and skim it. Then steep them in twelve gallons of sweet Malaga wine. Put it in bottles for use.

☞ See "Mattson's American Vegetable Practice," pages 310 and 311. This prescription contains enough of the compounds to make 4 barrels of bitters, instead of 15 gallons. If his other prescriptions are as strongly tinctured as the above, his work must be a valuable (?) guide for practitioners. What a grand article these bitters must be for weakly females.


BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.


DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *eighth volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of 'Thomsonism'; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the exertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

 **CONDITIONS.**—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

 Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES. We shall not send to the clubs who subscribed for the *seventh volume*, unless we receive a special order to that effect.

As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass. Boston, Mass., Sept. 1, 1841."

AGENTS FOR SELLING THE PURE THOMSONIAN MEDICINES.

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N. S. MAGOON, No. 40 Salem street, Boston.
 Acton, Robert Chaffin
 Ashburnham, Amos S Davis
 Amesbury, Andrew Howarth
 Ashby, F A Kendall
 Andover, John Harding
 Ashby, Thomas Gibson
 Colerain, O J Martin, C W Shattuck, & R Dew
 Chesterfield, Amos Bisby, and V. Nichols
 Danvers, Amos Trask
 " South Parish, James Worcester
 " Eli F Burnham
 Eastham, Scotter Cobb
 Fairhaven, Samuel Wilde
 " M. O. Bradford
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 Fitchburg, John Gibbs
 Gardner, S C Phinney
 Gloucester, Samuel Friend, Gideon Lane,
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 Shelburne, Rufus Furbush
 Shelburne Falls, E. A. Rankin
 Sandwich, Calvin Fisher
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Springfield, Sirguy Noble
 Sturbridge, D Mason, and Wm H Rice
 Stoughton, Luther Belcher
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 Portland, Dan'l Sawyer and Rev. C. D. Ffrench
 Prospect, Nathaniel Littlefield
 Thomaston, Horatio Alden
 Vinal Haven, P. Guinn.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Dover, Bethuel Keith
 Exeter, S. J. Perkins
 Kingston, John Dearborn,
 Langdon, Royal Shumway
 Meredith, William M. Ladd
 Manchester, New Village, E. Hunt, Esq
 New Hampton, James Jackson
 Nashua, C. Hosmer
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 Sanbornton Bridge, Dyer & Sanborn
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 Charlemont, David Todd

Dummerston, Alemson Butterfield
 Dover, Daniel Leonard and Washington Leonard
 East Randolph, P. Smith
 Grafton, Nathaniel B. Gibson
 Halifax, S. Plumb, and Eben'r M. Clark
 " Alvah Brooks, and John Reid, Esq.
 Green River, Sam'l Cutting
 Guilford, Henry Packer, and Philip Martin
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 Randolph, Jehiel Smith
 Readsboro', Leavitt Ballou
 Straton, Hiram Baldwin
 Woodstock, Nathan Cushing, and J. Holt
 Windham, Ezra T Butterfield
 Whitingham, W. Goodnow
 " Reuben Green, and Rufus Chase

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 New Haven, George Munson
 Norwich, O B Lyman

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia, William Harden

NEW YORK.

Fulton, Mrs. Jesse Thomson
 New York City, Phebe H. Mann, 114 Elev
 enth St., near 5th Avenue
 Sag Harbor, L. I., Hermon Wooding
 Troy, Ira Wood

NEW JERSEY.

Hightstown, Lawrence Taylor

VIRGINIA.

Buckingham, A. S. Thomas

ILLINOIS.

(Near) Edwardsville, Calvin Hodgman
 Jacksonville, Chapin Allen

ARKANSAS.

Batesville, George Gill

NORTH CAROLINA.

Rocky Mount, A. Willford

Dr. Samuel Thomson

HEREBY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st.

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [better than those which have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their better medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against DANIEL L. HALE, and JAMES OSGOOD, in Blackstone street, Boston, who call themselves Thomsonians, but with whom he

has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmity at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman, whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheep's clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The number of counterfeiters sent out from Blackstone street, is large, and they are locating themselves in various parts of the country. Of this class is a man by the name of Whitney, and another by the name of Simon Batchelor,—not exactly a Simon Pure,—in Nashua, N. H., both of the P. D. Badger stamp. This Whitney has a large sign bearing on it this inscription—"MEDICINE PREPARED BY THE GREAT FOUNDER OF THE THOMSONIAN SYSTEM"—although he has had no medicine of me for a long time. If these swindlers would stand before the public upon their own merits, and not palm off their "stuffs" as medicines prepared by me, I should not notice their transactions, but leave the community to seek its own means of protection against them. As it is, I feel it a duty to strip off their disguises, and show them to the public in their true light.

The value and efficacy of my medicines depend much upon the vegetables being collected at a proper time, and upon the manner of preparing them. No vegetable can be safely used as a medicine after it has begun to decay, or has been heated by laying in large piles. People who would have pure medicines, should either collect and prepare them themselves, or purchase only of those who are known to deal honestly.

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the Crude Articles and Compounds made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

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Having built an eight horse power, Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

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BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.”—SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, OCTOBER 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 22.

From the Thomsonian Messenger.

CALOMEL.

What a hydra-headed monster!
Language fails to paint or tell
Half the ills that daily cumber
Man, from use of *Calomel*.
Health destroyer—happiness spoiler—
Dropsy maker—sick man's bane;
Stomach retcher—misery fetcher—
Blood corrupter—source of pain.
Eruption breeder—pimple feeder—
Skin defacer—beauty's foe—
Nerve unstringer—vital stinger—
Muscle waster—source of woe.
Bone upsetter—palsy getter—
Ulcer causer—corruption's friend—
Bowel trotter—liver rotter—
Pain producer, without end.
Tooth decayer—gum diseaser—
Palate eater—canker's source—
Tongue enlarger—saliva pois'ner—
Brain inflamer—*death by force!* [O. B. L.

INDUSTRY.

BY J. S. OLCOTT. A. M. T. P.

If there be one subject more intimately connected with health than any other it is perhaps a wise and constant improvement of our time.—Sir Horace Vere on being asked by the Marquis Spinola, the cause of his brother's death, is said to have replied “He died, sir, of having nothing to do.” “Alas!” said the Marquis “that is enough to kill every general of us all.” The declaration and reply are founded on truth; and it is the design of this paper to impress a conviction of that truth upon the minds of all who read this Journal, especially those connected with the botanic practice. That the subject may at once become stripped of its onerous and irksome aspect, we may observe, that industry and wise improvement of our time are confined to no one kind of employment or sphere of operation. It addresses itself to every individual of every sex, calling, relationship, and profession in a spirit and language, persuasion and requisition, appropriate to their duty and privilege. It recommends itself by exhibiting the example and precepts of some of the master spirits of the world, such as Locke, Newton, Bacon, Hale, Jefferson, Franklin, and Napoleon.

1. We may observe that a wise and regular improvement of our time secures to us without loss, expense, or danger, that exercise in exertion, action, change, rest, and excitement, which

our physical constitution requires, in order to sound health and comparative individual longevity. We must be convinced of this if we understand in the least, the physical constitution of our bodies, or give the least credit to our feelings after having been for some time wisely and regularly employed; or, to the testimony of the most able physicians, sustained by the statistics of mortality. We are made for action. All our limbs, muscles, joints, various systems, require it. Not rapid, but regular, not uniform, but varied, not painful, but pleasurable. There are rising of 430 muscles in the human body, each of which should receive daily impulse, in order to retain its healthy state and functions. If a sedentary, inactive, slothful life be indulged, many of these lose their volume and energy; they become insensible to the contractile; and life itself is not unfrequently almost entirely driven from them. Violent interrupted action makes too sudden a requisition on the various systems, destroys many of the fine ducts, nervous tissue, which, though too fine to be seen with the naked eye, are nevertheless absolutely and highly important to life and health; and is ever followed by a nervous febrile affection, indicative, how much soever we may flatter ourselves to the contrary, of virtual loss seldom to be redeemed. It is the regular, varied, and pleasurable action which accompanies the wise employment of our time which is alone salutary, and which alone is not followed by the slow, but sometimes quick and fearful exactions. Such exercise is recommended by such men as Boerhaave, Cullen, Hunter, Physic and Rush. Their authority is sustained by special data, astounding facts, and universal testimony. Few men are more wisely employed than philosophers, and they attain the greatest longevity; few more irregularly and violently than sailors, and with them fifty is old age. And how healthy and long lived are our agricultural population, in comparison with that of our villages, towns, and cities? From all this we come to the conclusion, which to the discriminating and reflecting mind, is as convincing as if sustained by mathematical demonstration, that a wise and regular improvement of our time, secures to us, without loss, expense, or danger, that exercise in exertion, action, change, rest, and excitement, which our physical constitution requires in order to sound health and comparative individual longevity. Reverse it, and we “die of doing nothing.”

2. We observe further, that a wise improvement of our time, secures to us, without loss, expense, or danger, that exercise in exertion action, change, rest and excitement: which our intellectual constitution requires in order to sound health and mental energy. If the physical system becomes weak, febrile, flacid, or inert, it is sure to be followed by intellectual debility. Mind is intimately connected with matter.—Phrenological science exhibits to us the very channels through which the wonder working spirit of man sends forth its intellectual creations. Our own experience joined to the testimony and sustained by the example of the wisest of mankind confirms the fact, and the conviction of the truth of our position is as in the light of heaven flashed upon us from a thousand points. We are well aware that no corporeal discipline will induce either morality, science, or piety. These are originated and perfected under the influence of truth and sentiment. They are the growth of long, patient, and persevering moral and intellectual discipline. But we well know that to feel sensibly and to think clearly and profoundly, to ascend the heights of moral and intellectual knowledge, we must have a physical constitution adjusted to the effort. Splendid sacrifices may be made and victories thereby won, but these isolated cases militate not against the general principle we sustain, nor the general position we have taken. And let it be remembered that the principle and position are general. Is the mind and body of every individual intimately connected? Does the one sympathise with the other? Have we all an intellectual constitution which calls for action? Must hope and fear, interest and duty, sentiment and affection, skill, talent, and address, be frequently called in requisition to make us what we are? Why then is not the line of action pointed out the one, and the only one which will secure to us the blessing which we should devoutly wish, and guard us against those evils which we should as rational beings ever deprecate and deplore.—And here we do well to reflect that mental and sentimental exercise is connected in a higher or less degree with every calling. The mechanic must fix his mind and exert his ingenuity as firmly and adroitly in his line of action as the professional man and his success is to him not unfrequently less important. The soul in all its thoughts, desires, and affections, soon accommodates itself to its particular sphere. Things too mean for its aspirations become magnified, and those too lofty for its frequent grasp diminished, and whatever be her sphere, the result of which we speak is sure to follow.

We leave to the moralist and the divine part of our subject to illustrate and enforce which is specially and peculiarly their province.

To conclude; it is most evidently the special and imperious duty of the physician not only to recommend regular exercise, but also to show in what manner it is salutary, and its reverse ruinous to health. If he will make his profession a trade, let him be silent; or let him recommend carefulness, confinement to a close room, palliatives, or excitants to febrile defection; but if he will be the useful man, the moral and physical philanthropist, let him speak boldly, freely, sincerely, and affectionately, to the people, who, in mind and body, are, some of them, perishing from inaction and sloth. But we are too stirring a people to need, except in particular instances, reproof; and in those "you tell the story to a deaf man." It remains, however, a demonstrable truth, that if you divide mankind, who are under the influence of disease, one fourth in our villages, towns, and cities will be composed of those who have sickened under the palsy influence of sloth,—that one fourth of those who commit suicide might have found a safe, happy, and honorable refuge from ignominy and contempt, (not sympathy and compassion, as their monomania teaches) in our industrious course of action.

From the Botanico-Medical recorder.

LOBELIA vs. ARSENIC.

Our old friend, the Major, who understands very well which practice best applies to particular cases, mixed up some arsenic the other day with some pulverized cheese, for the purpose of killing rats and mice which infested the office, eating up the papers and the botanic medicines contained in it. The next day lots were slain. But we observed a poor little mouse out of his hiding place, in spite of the fear of man, sipping from a dish of water provided for him, trembling, reeling, and swelling at the same time, for all the world like a human being that had taken an over-dose of Fowler's Solution for the cure of the ague.

But soon it was discovered that little Joseph's favorite puppy, Sancho, also had got to the cheese and demolished the whole of it, containing about two pennyweights of the deadly poison. A large dose of lobelia was administered in a trice—a few minutes more, and a powerful emesis ensued—a tremendous load of poisoned food, &c. was ejected, and away ran Sancho, as clear of mischief as if he had never tasted arsenic.

Yesterday we were not very well, and wanted to be better: so, at the risk, on the one hand, of horrifying the regulars and their dupes, and, on the other, of grieving our friends, Graham, Alcott and Peckham, we took a first-rate steaming, then spent three or four hours in drinking

composition, lobelia, &c., of which we took enough to vomit any three patients we have attended for a long time. The whole producing little more than gagging and sweating, we became discouraged, rose, dressed ourself, went and mowed some grass, fed our horse, and did sundry other little jobs, went to bed, slept well, rose this morning quite comfortable, and have done lots of work to day, now one o'clock.

Look here, ye gentlemen poisoners, who swear that "lobelia will kill if it don't puke," and that "30 grains is a dangerous dose," what do you suppose is become of the half ounce at least (we did not weigh it) that we took yesterday? We have not thrown up a particle of it, and yet we have eaten our food with a good relish to-day, and have nearly recovered our usual health. In the face of thousands of such facts, are you not ashamed to talk about lobelia "killing people?" The dear people for whom you profess such solicitude, are fast finding you out, and woe to your craft when they are fully acquainted with it.

From the Thomsonian Messenger.

"A PART OF THE THOMSONIAN SYSTEM IS PERFECTLY RIDICULOUS."

It is often amusing to hear the *sage* remarks that fall from the lips of men of credit and popularity, against the Thomsonian system of medical practice.

A short time since, as we were standing upon the side-walk, conversing with some of our fellow-citizens, the subject of medicine was alluded to by one of them, who expressed a desire that there might be more harmony and condescension between the physicians of the two parties—that what was useful in both systems might be adopted by both classes; "for," said he, "I believe there is no question that there are some things in the Thomsonian practice which are very valuable, but a part of it is *perfectly ridiculous*." We kindly asked him to point out the part which he considered so ridiculous.—"O, I don't wish to hold an argument with you on the subject," was his reply. We remarked that we considered it but just that he should designate the portion he regarded so ridiculous, and sustain his position by good and reasonable arguments. But he immediately withdrew from us, after merely saying, "the red pepper for every thing is ridiculous."

We shall not tire our readers with a lengthy commentary upon the above; but shall content ourselves with merely asking a plain question, and leaving it for their impartial decision.

Which is worthy of being thought the most ridiculous, a system of medicine, which, originating as it did, with an obscure person among

the hills of New-Hampshire, has within the short space of fifty years, spread throughout the United States, and become known in almost every town—which has also crossed the Atlantic, and found so favorable reception in England as to have been embraced by her majesty the Queen, who has deemed it no disgrace to choose, for her first and royal physician, a botanic doctor, without any diploma, in the person of Sir J. Clark—a system which numbers in this union four millions of adherents, about 2,000 practitioners, and 200 converted regulars; among whom may be found a Waterhouse, a Hervey, a Powell, a Montgomery, a Ware, and many others who have graced the halls of science—a system which has more than 20 periodicals that are well sustained, and which from year to year is growing more and more popular with our fellow citizens: we ask, which ought to be viewed as occupying the most ridiculous position, a system which can boast of all this, or the assertions of men who know not, either by experience or otherwise, the principles of such a system, or the nature and use of its remedies—who never took a dose of lobelia in their lives—and who are so thoroughly attached to the car of popularity that they will probably be the last to embrace such a system, and who yet declare a part thereof *perfectly ridiculous*. We leave it to our readers to draw their own conclusions. We would not forget, however, to express the pleasure which it affords us, to hear our friends acknowledge that there are some good traits about the Thomsonian system. We are right glad to find them so much enlightened as to begin to see things as "trees walking." We trust the day is not far distant, when they will rejoice in the full blaze of *truth* on this great subject.

From the Botanico Medical Recorder.

TAKE CARE OF YOUR HORSE.

When we were going to Cincinnati lately, we met some gentlemen who had a sick horse.—The poor beast had been taken with trembling, &c. and was then lying down and groaning.—We advised the gents to give him cayenne tea, but they did not seem to approve of the plan.—What became of the horse we know not; but on our return, our own horse was taken, in Franklin, in the same way, Dr. Isaiah Lambkin, the steamer, poured down him nearly a pint of tincture of cayenne. He snuffed and coughed a little, started off, and travelled that day forty-four miles with ease, and has not been sick since. Would bleeding and salts have done better? Oh, the stupidity of those who bleed and poison men and brutes to cure them of disease! Can any thing be more silly, absurd or wicked?

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

LIGHT FROM THE SUN!

The New York Sun notices the death of Francis Johnson, as follows:—

"CAUTION TO DRUGGISTS' WIVES.—By the carelessness of a Druggist's wife in Philadelphia, a child named Francis Johnson lost his life on Friday. The child was taken sick, and it was deemed necessary to give it some Castor Oil; accordingly the mother proceeded to the Drug Store of Dr. Armstrong, in Sixth street above Pine, to procure this medicine; the doctor was absent, and his wife, probably in the hurry of the moment, delivered to the mother a bottle containing Croton Oil. On her return home, this was immediately given to the child, which expired about two hours after. It is stated, in addition, that as soon as the child was dead, Dr. Armstrong (who is a Thomsonian) gave a certificate stating that the child died of convulsions, told the mother to bury it as soon as possible, and not to say any thing about it. The mother of the child was a white woman, and the father a colored man. It is said that the mother of the child is the daughter of highly respectable parents in the interior of the State, and ran away from a boarding school."

We have endeavoured to draw a line between Thomsonians and mongrels, more generally known in this city by the name of Botanics. Our readers need not be told that we have battled to guard the Thomsonian system from the intrusion of ignorant and unprincipled pretenders, especially those who mix their dreams and imaginary conceptions with a view of "improving" Dr. Thomson's system. We are proud to say, that we are the only independant journal in the Union, (one excepted) that has pursued a course that is honourable and just in regard to the deception and quackery in our ranks, under the name of Thomsonian. Union and harmony may be vociferated from one end of the union to the other and it will avail nothing with us, if we are obliged to countenance *ignorant and unprincipled pretenders!* under the cloak of "THOMSONISM." We are "independent," so far as truth and justice is concerned, and dare to denounce what others under the head of "independents," have tamely submitted and crouched to in a spaniel like manner. We have never advocated the Thomsonian system from any other motive than that of its importance to mankind. Pursuing the even tenor of our way, we have been chagrined at the disposition of the press, who under the pretence of union, have done more to encourage malpractice and deception, than even those opposed to the system. What real benefit would be derived by encouraging a band of ignoramuses and unprincipled

quacks who figure as Thomsonians? Will their influence and unblushing arrogance induce a trial of the Thomsonian remedies? Will their cupidity and deception overcome the prejudice of mankind, or will it have a tendency to bring the Thomsonian system into disrepute?

We regret to be under the necessity of informing the public, that Castor Oil or any article of a purgative property, whether vegetable or mineral, is excluded from the Thomsonian practice, and any individual who employs physic, does it from his own views of medicine and not from those of Dr. Samuel Thomson; and therefore, to use the name of Thomson in employing remedies that are strictly forbidden by him in his practice, is not only a violation of justice but a fraud on the community, and should receive the censure of every journal in the Union; especially those who pretend to advocate Thomsonism.

We challenge not only the regular, but the *ir*-regular, the Beachite and the Howardite, the Botanic and the Homopathic, or any other class of pretended healers, to bring forward a case that purgatives are absolutely required, or to prove their utility as a remedial agent where the Thomsonian remedies have been strictly administered.

The grand secret is, and we express it boldly, quackery is closely allied to purgative agents; so much so, that were the people enlightened on the subject, quacks of every kind would soon find themselves out of employment, and all the nostrums that disgrace the columns of the public press would follow in the path of retirement, and their repose would quiet the nerves of many a sufferer, wedded to their influence. Quackery cannot *begin* without *physic*, neither can it *end* while its employment is *continued*. If *physic* is *good* in *certain* cases, it cannot be *bad* in *any* case. We are aware that popular prejudice is against us in our ideas of *physic*, but we are not to be intimidated on this account. We might with the same propriety resign our experience in Thomsonism, knowing its unpopularity, especially amongst those who do not think for themselves. To glide with the current we are aware is an easy way to get along, and many who pretend to Thomsonian principles in practice, have thrown away their *oars* and followed the stream. But the day has dawned on the Thomsonian system in this city, and every one who manifested an inclination to unite popular prejudice with Thomsonian principles are considered mere mendicants, and unworthy of the notice and respect that is due to men of integrity and principle.

No man has ever been disgraced by malpractice who has adhered to the system of Dr. Thomson.—This cannot be said of those who have pursued a mixed practice. Indeed we are at a

loss to know where a mongrel would fly for refuge in case of mal-practice; they would undoubtedly be in a sad dilemma, we would therefore advise them to pursue one of the various schemes that is more congenial with their notions of physic, and drop the name of Thomsonia, and we shall never hear of a death by mistake in purchasing Croton Oil in a "*Thomsonian Drug Store*," or any other *physic* that is unknown in the Thomsonian practice.

From the same.

THOMSONISM.

It has ever been our object in the advocacy of the Thomsonian system, to sustain its merits on the purest principles, and endeavor to enlighten mankind in regard to the importance of reflecting on a subject of such vast importance as that of medicine.—The system we advocate, is that founded by Dr. Samuel Thomson. We have labored without fee or reward to bring the system before the public, and in doing which, we are sorry to say, have incurred more bad feeling, malice and acts of the most illiberal character, from those who use Dr. Thomson's name, than from even the most bitter enemies of the system. We regret that the dignity of the Thomsonian press is not more exalted than to favor the meanest sycophants who cater as doctors and medicine venders under the name of Dr. Thomson. The system is considered by many in the worst light, owing to the ignorant and unprincipled individuals who practice in disguise, employing Thomson's name, and administering and selling medicines, that are as foreign to it, as light is to darkness. These miserable mendicants endeavoured to silence our war on exposing their pitiful manœuvres and schemes to palm themselves on the public as Thomsonians. They have threatened to withdraw their interest and support, if we did not hold in; and when they were convinced their threats were disregarded, their conduct was every thing but dignified. We pity them from the bottom of our heart, and hope our friends will sympathise in their folly and imbecility.

But we would have it understood that our object is, as it heretofore has been, to enlighten the people; and to convince them that it is necessary they should think for themselves, in doing which, they will be enabled to detect not only the learned quacks but also the ignorant quacks, and learn to distinguish Thomsonian remedies from those made by unprincipled men under the pretence of Thomsonian.

Physic, for the most part, is nothing else but the substitute of exercise or temperance.

From the Thomsonian Messenger.

"SCIENTIFIC TREATMENT"

of *Cynanche Tonsillaris*, or Sore Throat.

In Mackintosh's Practice of Physic, vol. 1., page 228, may be found a description of this form of disease, in connection with the treatment most approved by the author. As it may not be uninteresting to some of our readers to become acquainted as much as may be, with the exquisite beauties of "regular" medical science, we venture to present for their examination a short extract from the said author, on the treatment of the above named complaint:

"This complaint," says the doctor, "is sometimes very little under the power of the usual remedies, unless it be attacked at the very beginning; and it is only in such cases, or to check the inflammation from running into extensive ulceration or sloughing, that venesection ought to be had recourse to. Leeches may be applied externally, under similar restrictions. It has been recommended that they should be applied internally to the part immediately affected; in which last case each leech is introduced by means of a tube, with a thread through the tail; but when it is thought necessary to draw blood from the part more immediately affected, it is much more easily and speedily done by scarifications, and much less painful to the patient.—Blisters are very frequently useful. Females have a great objection both to leeches and blisters; but particularly to the former, from the marks they produce."

Thus the Doctor goes on recommending leeching in the manner above described; a succession of blisters to the throat; a gargle of warm water for the same, together with scarifications, &c., and finally winds up with the following profound and scientific advice:

"But the most efficacious application is a solution of the nitrate of silver in distilled water, in the proportion of four, six, and even ten grains to the ounce. The ulcerated surface is to be washed before the solution is applied. This operation, however insignificant it may appear must be done with proper care, as bad consequences have been known to follow. There is a preparation in my museum in which the epiglottis is completely destroyed by common caustic rudely used."

Who will deny that the above-prescribed treatment for sore throat is in an eminent degree scientific, modest, delicate, and charming?

Can the sticklers of Thomsonism, after reading these specimens of diplomatic advice, quoted from high authority, any more plead the utility of such remedies as are found recommended in Thomson's System of Practice, for quinsy or sore throat? Why, certainly, it seems

to us that no tender mother can even endure the thought of feeding her daughter on Cayenne and Bayberry tea, and consequently be the means of adding fuel to the fire of her already inflamed, sore throat; and ten chances to one if the "steam doctor" does not direct that some of that poisonous lobelia be added to the gargle, which of course must make a very vile compound. But on the other hand, the kind mother can, no doubt, without any fantastical streaks, be her fingers ever so white and delicate, take the beautiful leech between them, (it wont kick "nor nothing,") run a needle through its tail, and then introduce the remedial little reptile into her daughter's tender sore throat, and, after it has remained there long enough to draw sufficiently from the crimson current to become so enlarged as to make a delicious morsel, pull it carefully back again, (its scales wont scratch much,) taking care that the tail does not tear out, and the invaluable, little scientific tool, consequently slide like a wheat-beard into the stomach, where, of course, it can regale itself at pleasure.

It is true, that, Dr. Mackintosh says, that "females have a great objection to leeches, because they produce marks." But we believe if the fair sex have any regard for science, and medical genius, they will heartily approve of the method of application recommended above, coming as it does from a learned professor. Humanity oftens shudders when an ignorant Thomsonian recommends the vapor bath, or a lobelia emetic, (and well it may, since the "regulars" report so many victims by steam and lobelia,) but when learned and diplomatic doctors so scientifically project and recommend a plan for the exhibition of leeches, into the mouth and throat, most certainly duty calls her, then, quietly to submit, without the distortion of a feature, or the agitation of a nerve.

Again, "however insignificant it may appear," the doctor seems to think that sometimes an application of the lunar caustic is the most efficacious remedy, provided it be applied with proper care, as bad consequences do *sometimes* follow. "A preparation" in the doctor's "museum" seems to substantiate the fact beyond contradiction, that the solution spoken of is, to say the least, a very "efficacious" article. Even cayenne and lobelia are not more so. For, while we believe these are the most powerful articles to remove disease, we also as fully believe that the nitrate of silver is not less powerful in producing it. It will ultimately destroy every painful sensation, and bring upon the patient a sleep more profound than was experienced by Adam.

The loquacity of fools is a lecture to the wise.

EVERY DAY KNOWLEDGE.

BY CHARLES HOLDEN.

An anecdote is told of the application of one of the common principles of mechanics, to the saving of a public building in Paris. The walls of the building were gradually separating and it became a question of importance how they should be firmly restored to their original position. Many were suggested, but were impracticable. At length an individual, applying his mechanical genius to the case, proposed the simple plan of running huge bars of iron from wall to wall, and securing them on the outside by nuts. Then applying sufficient heat to the bars in the interior of the building, on the common principle that heat will expand, the bars were elongated and the nuts loosened. Immediately securing these tight, as the iron cooled it collapsed and the walls were drawn together. Repeating this process sufficiently, the walls were returned to their places and made firm as ever by the power that sustained them. The work was thus accomplished, (which had puzzled the first mechanics) on principles that every boy of six month's life in a blacksmith shop understands perfectly well—but applied in an important emergency.

If not the application of a principle of mechanics, it was one of strong common sense, which is related of two dogs quarrelling. One of them had taken a firm grip of his antagonist, which he could not be induced to quit. A dog fight will soon attract a crowd. Some proposed one thing and some another, to induce the victor to unloosen his jaws. He was thumped, his tail pinched, his ears pulled, but nothing would avail. A man passed along at the time, and stopped to look on with the rest. He soon saw what the matter was—and told the bystanders he would separate the dogs in a short time. They had a little pride about it as people generally do, when they don't succeed themselves, they doubt if any body else can; and they rather sneered at his ability. He took from his pocket a snuff box, and having deliberately taken a pinch of snuff himself, he clapped the snuff box under the dog's nose that was holding the other in his grip.—The dog, although quarrelsome, had never debased himself by making a tobacco box of his nose, and he could not take so liberal a pinch as the gentleman had offered him without sneezing. To sneeze he must unloosen his jaws—and behold the work was accomplished! It was a ludicrous case, but it showed a ready application of common sense.

How useful may one be in cases of imminent danger, by laying up a stock of every day knowledge that may be picked up—a little here and there. But a month or two have elapsed since,

in a village in Massachusetts a valuable woman and a mother, lost her life through the want of knowledge among the two or three who saw her die! By some accident, a vein or artery was severed, and the life blood was flowing rapidly away. The bystanders could only run for the physician or stand by without means to aid till he come! When he arrived his patient was dead! She had bled to death! With the simple application by those around her, of a handkerchief bound above or below the wound, (as the nature of it was)—and increasing its tightness with a prong of wood, the blood would have kept in the system, till the physician could have arrived, and a valuable life been saved!

COURAGE OF REFORMERS.—When the youthful Roger Williams stood up to vindicate the doctrine of religious toleration, and declared that the civil power should punish crime but never coerce opinion; that man should be held responsible for his faith to God alone; that conscience is sacred, and not to be fettered or impeded by government; what reception did he meet even from the fathers of our own New England? They frowned upon him as if he were tainted with a spiritual leprosy. The whole colony was thrown into a ferment; the press teemed with denunciations: the pulpit hurled its anathemas; courts, civil and ecclesiastical, put him under their ban, and drove him into exile among the Indians of Rhode Island. A fearful ordeal; but could it destroy the truth? Here is encouragement for all pioneers in a good cause.—But, had Roger Williams said, “My views will be unpopular; I cannot avow them without incurring the displeasure of my brethren; I shall get myself into difficulty, reproach and suffering;” what would have become of religious liberty even in the land of the Pilgrims? Where would have been his own well earned fame, and his crown of glory and of joy?—[Adv. of Peace.]

FLUENCY OF SPEECH.—The common fluency of speech in most men and most woman is owing to a scarcity of matter and scarcity of words; for whoever is a master of language and hath a mind full of ideas, will be apt in speaking to hesitate upon the choice of both, whereas common speakers have only one set of ideas, and one set of words to cloth them in, and these are always ready at the mouth; so people come faster out of church when it is almost empty than when a crowd is at the door.—[Dean Swift.]

A GOOD TOAST.—At a late agricultural dinner in Massachusetts, the following toast was given:

“The games of fortunes: Shuffle the cards as you will, SPADES will always win.”

MORTALITY.

Oh! why should the spirit of mortal be proud?
Like a fast fitting meteor, a fast flying cloud,
A flash of the lightning, a break of the wave,
He passes from life to his rest in the grave.

The leaves of the oak and the willow shall fade,
Be scattered around and together be laid;
And the young and the old, and the low and the high,
Shall moulder to dust, and together shall lie.

The child, that a mother attended and loved;
The mother, that infant's affection that proved;
The husband, that mother and infant that bless'd,
Each—all are away to their dwelling of rest.

The maid on whose cheek, on whose brow, in whose eye
Shone beauty and pleasure—her triumphs are by;
And the memory of those that loved her and praised,
Are alike from the minds of the living erased.

The hand of the king that the sceptre hath borne,
The brow of the priest that the mitre hath worn,
The eye of the sage, and the heart of the brave,
Are hidden and lost in the depths of the grave.

The peasant, whose lot was to sow and to reap;
The herdsman, who climbed with his goats to the steep;
The beggar, that wandered in search of his bread,
Have faded away—like the grass that we tread.

The saint, that enjoyed the communion of heaven;
The sinner, that dared to remain unforgiven;
The wise and the foolish, the guilty and just,
Have quietly mingled their bones in the dust.

So the multitude goes—like the flower and the weed
That wither away, to let others succeed;
So the multitude comes—even those we behold,
To repeat every tale that hath often been told.

For we are the same things our fathers have been,
We see the same sights that our fathers have seen,
We drink the same streams, and we feel the same sun,
And we run the same course that our fathers have run.

The thoughts we are thinking, our fathers would think;
The death we are shrinking from, they too would shrink;
The life we are clinging to, they too would cling;
But it speeds from the earth like a bird on the wing.

They loved—but their story we cannot unfold;
They scorned—but the heart of the haughty is cold;
They grieved—but no wail from their slumbers may
come;
They joyed—but the voice of their gladness is dumb.

They died—aye! they died; and we things that are now,
Who walk on the turf that lies over their brow;
Who make in their dwellings a transient abode,
Meet the changes they met in their pilgrimage road.

Yea, hope and despondence, and pleasure and pain,
Are mingled together like sunshine and rain;
And the smile and the tear, and the song and the dirge,
Still follow each other like surge upon surge.

'T is the twink of an eye—'t is the draught of a breath,
From the blossom of health to the paleness of death—
From the gilded saloon, to the bier and the shroud—
Oh! why should the spirit of mortal be proud?

PHILOSOPHY.—Philosophers, who are somewhat numerously made by other people's troubles, and cannot philosophise in their own affairs, are prompt in administering consolation—exhorting to fortitude and resignation—preaching up the patience of Job—recommending the practice of every cardinal virtue—dealing out their ethics in volumes, and pouring forth their luminous beams of wisdom on their fellow men, while they have not a scattered ray to illumine their own narrow path. But the test of philosophy is in the hour of trial, when adversity comes home, and affliction passes our own threshold, and strikes at the domestic hearth. It is then we behold philosophers sinking into common men, and in too many instances, at best but idle drivellers. If many could only carry out the delightful theory they so largely profess, into actual practice, men, indeed, would just be less than angels, and the millenium must follow so glorious a perfection of earthly things. The philosophy of the world is, for the most part, in pounds, shillings, and pence; and the amount of friendship is too often regulated by the relative value of pecuniary connexion—disinterestedness of heart is a rare profession! How few, if they had to back their counsel by a coin, would bestow their advice!

From the Botanico Medical Recorder.

HEMP IN TETANUS—(LOCKJAW.)

The doctors have found that the extract of hemp is a first rate article to cure the lockjaw. It must be remembered, however, that several of the patients *cured* by it of lockjaw, died soon after of some other form of disease! If the dealers in poison would only take the hemp themselves, the people would seldom have the lockjaw, as many of their patients get the lockjaw from taking calomel. We were called to a case of this kind in Philadelphia. The calomel, though but a small portion had been given, had produced the lockjaw. We directed lobelia, which unlocked the jaws in five minutes, and, with other means, cured the patient in five days.

SCATTERING POULTICE.—A good neighbor lady says; mix pounded camphor, hog's lard, beeswax, and molasses: simmer till mixed and apply. We have used lobelia, slippery elm, powdered bitters, ginger, wet with canker teas, and covered with powdered camphor. This is first rate.—[Botanico-Medical Recorder.

To crystallize tin, take one spoonful muriatic acid, one nitric acid, eight water, mix. Warm a piece of block tin over the fire, and rub it with a cloth dipped in the mixture. Ornament with colored varnish.

INSECTS.—Among the more interesting operations of insects may be observed, during the months of June and July, the mechanical art of the solitary bees. The mason, which forms a nest of plaster on the wall; the carpenter, which bores a hole in the wood; and the leaf-cutter, which lines its nest with rose leaf. But still more surprising are the operations of the wasps which literally make paper for their hives. For this purpose they detach the fibres of wood by means of their jaws from posts, rails, window-frames, &c., and when they have amassed a bundle of fibres they moisten the heap with a few drops of viscid glue from their mouths, and kneading it with their jaws into a paste, similar to *papier mache*, fly off with it to their nests. The wasp's paper is about the thickness of thin writing paper, and it requires from fifteen to sixteen sheets to complete the exterior covering of the nest.

HINTS ABOUT UMBRELLAS.—That is a good piece of advice which "Ollapod," in the Knickerbocker, gives to his readers: "Lend not thy umbrella, nor suffer thou it to be stolen from thee. In this wise did I procure my indisposition. The night was dark, the rains descended the floods came, and beat against me: the umbrella was loaned, it had never come home. Heaven forgive the borrower!" There are some, however, who do not borrow this rainy-weather, much-to-be-desired-and requisite article—they steal it without compunction. I lately heard the preacher of a Wesleyan conventicle at Providence, deliver the following speech from the altar:—"I would announce to the congregation, that, probably by mistake, there was left at this house of prayer this morning, a small cotton umbrella, much damaged by time and wear; in place whereof was taken a very large brown silk umbrella, new, and of great beauty. I say, my brethren, it was probably by mistake, that of these articles, the one was taken and the other left; though it is a very improper mistake, and should be discontinued if possible. Blunders of this sort, brethren and sisters, are getting a *little too slick*."

THAT COAT.—It is stated that the coat in which Prince Esterhazy visited the Courts of Europe, cost over £200,000! It may not be generally known however, that to support this extravagant expenditure, he screws the marrow and vitals out of 300,000 of his serfs, who work without intermission all the year round, and for this incessant toil receive the miserable pittance of five sous a day, and withal think themselves happy if they can see the sun shine without being taxed for it!

It not unfrequently happens that those persons who, in society, carry all before them by their spirits and acquisitions are, at home, the most restless and uncomfortable beings upon the face of the earth, because they cannot there find the very excitement which is almost necessary to their existence.

DRESS.—The plainer the dress, with greater lustre does beauty appear. Virtue is the greatest ornament, and good sense the best equipage.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, OCTOBER 1, 1841.

With this number of the Manual, the subscriber's labors as editor end. He would therefore take this opportunity to express his gratitude to those friends, who have contributed to its pages while under his management, as by so doing they have relieved him of much of the care and fatigue which devolves upon the conductor of a periodical.

The editorial department will be conducted by Doct. E. L. GRAY, of Poughkeepsie, N. Y., who is a practical Thomsonian, and is well known as a lecturer on the system of medicine originated, taught, and brought to its present state of usefulness, by Doctor SAMUEL THOMSON. On retiring from the editorial department, the subscriber cannot but congratulate the proprietor of the paper, on his good luck, in securing the services of Doct. Gray; as his experience and knowledge in the cause, together with the extensive correspondence, which he will naturally receive from his Thomsonian acquaintances, must greatly enhance the value of the paper, and consequently increase its circulation.

J. P. MENDUM.

TWO NUMBERS MORE

Will bring the present volume of the Manual to a close. Those of its subscribers who do not wish it continued to them for another year will please give notice to that effect, immediately to the proprietor, post paid, or by their postmaster, free. All who do not thus stop their paper, will be considered subscribers for the Eighth Volume. All who are indebted for any of the previous Volumes are requested to make immediate payment.

Persons who are always innocently cheerful and good-humored, are very useful in the world; they maintain peace and happiness, and spread a thankful temper amongst all who live around them.

The following honest expression of sentiment from the pen of D. L. Terry, M. D., addressed to Doct. Curtis, of the Botanico-Medical Recorder, shows a hearty wish to accord to Doct. Samuel Thomson, the honor which so justly belongs to him, but which some little minds have endeavored to rob him of. We hope this new Society will prove true to their name, by following, strictly, the course pointed out by the man whom they intend to honor in adopting his name. But, should they see fit to do as many others have done, pursue a course of "improvements," which Doct. Thomson considers as no "improvement," but rather a retrograde step in medical science, they had better never adopted his name. We admire the course pursued by Doct. Curtis, dropping the Thomsonian name, when he dropped his connexion with Doct. Thomson; it shows that he does not wish to rise on the shoulders of Thomson, as many in our vicinity are daily doing, and his cut at such people is rather severe. We publish the remarks of both the gentlemen, together with the proceedings of the "Miami Thomsonian Medical Society," thinking they will prove interesting and useful to our readers; and we enjoin on all who use the immortal THOMSONIAN name, to study well the principles of Samuel Thomson, and strictly adhere to them; and to those who deviate from those principles we would say, as you would be honest, and deal honorable, do not transact business under a name to which you have no claim; and especially, when by so doing, you do it to the injury of the man whose name you bear.

THOMSONIAN MEETING.

At a meeting of Thomsonian physicians and friends held in Dayton, Ohio, August 2, 1841, Dr. J. Borton was called to the chair, and Dr. D. L. Terry appointed Secretary.

On motion of Dr. Terry an association was formed embracing the counties of Montgomery, Miami, Warren, Preble and Green, called the Miami Thomsonian Medical Association.

On motion of Dr. Terry, the members of this Association shall be composed of all the physician's and such of the friends as may wish to join it, who reside in the counties above named, subscribers to the Constitution of this Association and the elementary and fundamental Thomsonian principles adopted by the botanic convention held in Columbus, Ohio, on the 29th and 30th days of June last,

On motion of Dr. Knapp, a committee of three was appointed to draft a Constitution and report the same at the next regular meeting; whereupon the following persons were appointed to act on said committee, viz. Drs. Clancey, Edwards and Terry.

On motion, the following persons were elected as officers of the Association for the ensuing year, viz. Dr. J. Borton, President; Dr. J. Knapp, Vice

President, Dr. W. H. Frazier, and Dr. M. Edwards, Treasurer.

On motion of Dr. Terry, a committee of three was appointed to examine candidates for practice and to grant a certificate to such as they may deem qualified for the practice; whereupon Drs. D. L. Terry, Houston, and J. Borton were appointed as said committee.

On motion of Dr. Knapp, it was agreed that the examining committee receive from each applicant examined by them or a majority of them, the sum of five dollars.

On motion of Mr. S. Loomis, it was agreed that a notice of the next meeting of this Association be published in the Recorder and in each of the newspapers published within its limits, at least two weeks previous the time of the meeting.

On motion of Dr. W. H. Frazier, the Association adjourned to meet at Dayton, Ohio, on the first Monday in November next, at 10 o'clock A.M.

J. BORTON, President,
D. L. TERRY, Secretary.

Dr. Curtis, you will notice, in the above proceedings, that, we have adopted the name THOMSONIAN, instead of *Botanico*, &c. &c., which we think more appropriate, inasmuch as it designates the *particular* system on which we practice, and associates the name of its distinguished founder—
A NAME WHICH IS DESTINED TO BE IMMORTALIZED THROUGH THE PAGES OF MEDICAL HISTORY.

To Dr. Thomson belongs the honor of originating and discovering a system of medical practice which is founded on the sure foundation of truth. He rose up single-handed and met the enemy, and persevered in the struggle till he planted the banner of medical truth on the ramparts of the enemy's camp. He has lived to see the good seed which he has sown with his own hand, springing up and yield fruit in some places thirty, some sixty and some an hundred fold; and may he *never* live to see those who have been benefitted and enlightened by his discoveries, **SO LOST TO A SENSE OF JUSTICE AND GRATITUDE**, as to withhold from him the merit and honor so justly his due. I say, then, let his name be ever associated with the system, and let it be inscribed above the name of Columbus, on the temple of fame.

D. L. TERRY.

The following is Professor Curtis's reply:—

We are not unwilling to give to Dr. Thomson every iota of credit he deserves; but since he charged us with "getting our living by the use of his name," we have not called ourself a Thomsonian. It seems to us rather singular that our friends in Georgia, Maine, Rhode Island, and other places, should persist in wearing the name against the old

gentleman's will. He has publicly denounced this college and all connected with it, and it is on this account [Mark this ye sons of science!] that we do not wear his name. But your society can do as they please. *We* would not hinder you.

A. CURTIS.

LOOK OUT FOR IMPOSITION.

People who are in the habit of using Cayenne, either at the table or as a medicine, should look well to the article before they purchase it, as a large portion of what is in the market, and sold for "Cayenne," is but a mixture of a little of that article with a large quantity of other articles. We have seen much of this bad stuff in different families in this city, and it is astonishing, that people who think enough of Cayenne, to give it a place in their closets and at their tables, do not know the genuine from the deleterious article. We have recently been shown a quantity of this wicked compound, said to have been purchased of a man in Cambridge, Mass. who professes to be a *Thomsonian*! a portion of which we have by us for any to examine who doubt that there are people bad enough to thus impose on their neighbors. Men who will be guilty of such acts, would not hesitate to do greater deeds of wickedness, were it not for the fear they have of the law. This compound seems to be about two-thirds log-wood and the rest cayenne. Oh Thomsonism! how much of wickedness is committed in thy name. We hope that Mr. Osgood won't undertake to reprimand us for exposing this trick, as he did when we spoke of the lobelia and tartrate of antimony, a short time ago.

QUACKERY.

Perhaps our readers did not hear of a distressing case from the use of quack medicine, which occurred the other day; if not, they will now. A laboring man, who has a wife and five children, called upon a celebrated quack, who lives not far from the "South end," we believe, for something to cure a disease of the stomach with which he was troubled. The doctor sold him a large phial splendidly labelled with a red and blue paper, setting forth that the liquid within, was a preventive and a cure of about all the diseases which human flesh is heir to. It contained flaming recommendations, both in prose and verse, from all quarters of the world—from dignitaries in church and state, who represented themselves as in the *constant use* of the medicine. The poor purchaser, thinking that so many just men could not possibly lie, and, suspecting no trick, cheerfully paid the price, and

took a dose on the spot. He immediately began to feel strangely in his head, but as the pain in his stomach was removed, he did not doubt that he had experienced a cure. This was late in the evening. 'The poor fellow started for home with a light heart, regarding the aforesaid quack, as one of the best men in the world. He had not gone far before the medicine began to develop its power. He was taken with vomiting, which continued till his strength was completely exhausted, and in that condition, upon a pile of building materials, in a vacant lot, he was obliged to pass the night. In the morning he was discovered, more dead than alive, and carried home to his distressed family almost in a state of insensibility, and for nearly a week his recovery remained doubtful. The contents of the phial were submitted to the examination of a number of distinguished physicians and chemists, and they unanimously reported the liquid to be a most villanous compound, containing, among other poisonous ingredients, *Nux vomica*, a medicine which ought never to be used, except with the utmost caution in extreme cases. 'The apology of the quack is, that the man took *too large a dose*, and that he has sold the same medicine for a long time. On the other hand, the most respectable physicians affirm, that the medicine is a rank poison, which cannot be taken with benefit in any quantity, or in any case. We have laid facts before an intelligent community, purposely avoiding names, that we may get their unbiased verdict in the case. It has been suggested by some, that the Doctor who sold the medicine, ought to be indicted by the Grand Jury, for an attempt to poison. It is certainly a serious question, whether these venders of pills and nostrums are to be permitted to practice such dangerous impositions upon the ignorant and unwary. That they have already lined their pockets pretty well by such operations, does not seem to us a very good reason why they should be permitted to continue them. In the case we have described, could an impartial jury do less than to award heavy damages to the person who was the victim of such a shameful imposition?—[Boston Star.

Where for goodness sake, did Hippocrates study?—air, earth and water—man, and his kindred vegetable—disease and death, and all casualties and concomitants of humanity, were the pages he studied—every thing that surrounds and nourishes us were the objects of his attention and study. In a word, he read diligently and sagaciously the *Great Book of Nature*, instead of the little books of man.—[Benj. Waterhouse.

DOCTOR THOMSON'S NEW BOOK.

✍ It is with pleasure that we announce to our readers that this work is completed. Specimens of the work may be seen at the Infirmary, No. 40 Salem street, in this city, where orders will be received for supplies, which Doct. Thomson will be enabled to answer in a few days, as a supply has been ordered for that purpose, from Albany, N. Y. Please call and examine the work.

ANOTHER PROSECUTION.

✍ After our form was ready for press, we received a letter from Doct. JAHIEL SMITH, of East Randolph, Vt., stating that a warrant had been served on him, charging him with causing the death of one JONATHAN SHERBURNE; a man who died at Smith's Infirmary, in July last. Doct. Smith opened his Infirmary some years since, we are informed, and such complete success has attended his practice that the mineralites in his vicinity have long regarded him as the death angel to their beloved *mineral, poison system of practice*, and have left no means untried to injure him. The death of Mr. S., is but the *second* case which has taken place at the Infirmary in five years; during which time there has been more than *Two Thousand* desperate cases cured or comfortably relieved, many of whom had been pronounced by the faculty, "past relief." We view this last attempt of the mineralites to put down Thomsonism as their last grasp at power; and the evil they intend for Smith will recoil on themselves. We have received from Doct. Smith an account of his treatment of the deceased, together with a copy of the complaint served upon him, but have not time to publish them in this number of our paper. Dr. Smith had to give sureties in the sum of \$1,000 for his appearance at court on the 12th inst.

✍ The Southern Botanical Medical Journal, makes some remarks relative to Doct. Olcott's communication on "Electric Fluid" published in the Manual a few numbers back, which we suppose is intended as against the communication; but it is done in such "*scientific*" style we can't tell what it means. Those College taught *Thomsonians* are deep chaps, but they should remember that the Manual is only used to common, every-day language, and when they intend anything for us their remarks must not be in that lofty style, only comprehended by scholars.

After an experience of forty years in the practice of Midwifery, Doct. Thomson can say that neither a woman nor child has ever died under his treatment.

DYSENTERY.

This complaint has prevailed in our village to a considerable extent for about two months past, and many deaths have taken place in consequence. The old school faculty have always been unsuccessful in the treatment of dysentery, and thousands die under their treatment annually, whenever it prevails to any extent. A more mild form of looseness of the bowels, which is not attended with bloody stools, is called *Diarrhœa*; and both forms of the disease is caused by morbid accumulations in the stomach and bowels, and is most likely to prevail in very warm seasons. In hot sultry weather, food taken into the stomach is very liable to undergo fermentation before it can be digested, which produces an acrid state of the fluids throughout the system, especially if too large a quantity is taken at a time. A deranged state of the stomach or bowels would seldom take place if due attention was paid to the quantity and quality of food; although it would require much labor to convince the public at large that such is the fact. The stomach will digest more food in cold weather than in warm, for the simple reason that the human machine moves slower in proportion as the atmosphere approaches the temperature of the body. The same cause produces the same effect with the consumption of fuel in a stove. The colder the weather, the greater the contrast between the surrounding atmosphere and the warmth produced by consuming the fuel; and of course the draft is increased in proportion. And the same law holds good with the process of digestion in the human stomach. If the stove is badly constructed, and clogged with soot and ashes, the fire will not burn free even in cold weather. The same thing will take place with the stomach, provided it is in a foul, unhealthy condition. Under such a state of things, a small quantity of light nourishing food will digest much the best. So with the poor stove: a small quantity of dry light fuel will burn much more freely. There is a striking similarity between the consumption of fuel and the process of digesting food, so far at least as warmth and motion is concerned. In either case, a strong draft seems to facilitate the operation.

Dysentery, and all unusual evacuations from the bowels, is nothing more nor less than an effort of nature to free herself from an offending cause: and the business of a physician should be, to assist nature in her operations.

The reason why the old school physicians are unsuccessful in the treatment of bowel complaints is, because instead of assisting nature to remove the poisonous unhealthy secretions which have accumulated, they administer drugs of a still more poisonous character, which serves only to lessen the chance for recovery, and to render the condition of the patient still worse. In extreme cases they frequently administer powerful astringents, which occasionally produce confirmed constipation of the bowels, so that a movement cannot be brought about afterwards. In such cases inflammation takes place, which terminates in mortification and death. They seldom fail to administer calomel, which every body knows, or ought to know, is destructive to life, either in sickness or health; also opium in some of its various preparations is freely given, to destroy sensibility and

cause unnatural sleep; at the same time they admit that it does nothing towards the removal of disease, and seldom fails to protract the recovery and increase the danger. Now if these statements are correct, who can wonder that so large a proportion of their patients die? Thomsonian practitioners are more successful, notwithstanding they are stigmatized with the name of Quacks. They assist nature in removing the offensive accumulations and secretions, by simple vegetable substances, that can never do harm and yet are sufficiently active to produce perspiration, or any other evacuation, which proves to be necessary. The bowels are assisted in discharging their unhealthy contents by the use of stimulating enemata; the stomach is cleansed by the assistance of *Lobelia Inflata*; the pores are opened by the salutary process of vapor bathing, and thereby allowed to cast off the impurities from the blood and lessen the determination to the bowels and other internal organs; the general circulation is kept up by appropriate stimulants and tonics; the strength of the patient is maintained by keeping the stomach in a condition to receive and digest a moderate quantity of simple but nourishing food, until the cleansing process is accomplished by the combined efforts of nature and art, and the cure completed.

This simple method of treating dysentery can be easily learned, even by those who do not understand anatomy or physiology, and many lives and much expense saved when the disease prevails extensively, and skilful physicians cannot be obtained. Every family can qualify themselves to prescribe to advantage in cases of emergency at least, by making themselves familiar with Botanical books and periodicals. General principles, and a description of remedies, and their application, can be learned from the books, in addition to which the periodicals are continually reporting cases of almost every description. The subject is certainly worthy of attention, as it ranks high in point of importance; and it would be gratifying indeed to see every family qualified to prescribe in all ordinary forms of disease.

Some will no doubt ridicule the idea of placing the practice of medicine in the hands of the people; but we nevertheless believe it to be practicable, and history affords evidence of such a state of things in other countries.

The village of Poughkeepsie contains three regular Thomsonian practitioners, and one student, besides a large number of operative Ladies and Gentlemen, who are willing to lend a helping hand in case of necessity—all of which have treated more or less cases of dysentery during its prevalence this season. And we believe there has not been a single patient lost by this *heterodox* band of physicians, as the regulars are sometimes pleased to call us.

In the village of Newburgh, many have also died who were attended by the faculty. We received a letter from Dr. Shook a short time since, stating that he had prescribed for and attended forty-eight cases of dysentery, and lost none. Doct. Shook was formerly a student of ours, and located in Newburgh last spring.

The comparative merits of the two systems of practice seems to attract more attention than formerly, and the current of opposition is on the de-

cline, and the tide of public opinion is setting still stronger in favor of the Botanic practice. Thomsonian physicians are called for in various directions, and the supply is by no means equal to the demand. We hope our practitioners throughout the State will do all in their power to supply the deficiency, by instructing as many students as possible.

Notice was given in our last paper that we would take another student, in consequence of which several applications were made immediately, and we are obliged to take two instead of one.

There is unquestionably a great number of young men in this state who would be glad to go into the study—provided they could get an opportunity. The calling is no longer disgraceful in the estimation of the majority. In many places our practice is much more popular than that of the regulars. No one can investigate the subject without being converted; and we would advise those who wish to retain their confidence in the mineral practice to avoid investigation at all times, and turn a deaf ear to every thing that they may chance to hear said in favor of the Botanic practice, as no other method can be adopted to prevent a premature conversion.—[Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

THOMSONISM—MONGRELISM—CATHARTICS.

MR. EDITOR,—The bold and uncompromising position which you steadily maintain in relation to that class of individuals styled “mongrels,” however much it may bring upon your head the imprecatory wishes of that disjunctive band, cannot fail to meet a cordial response in the breast of every true friend to Thomsonism. I am well aware, sir, that in drawing the line of distinction in such manner as to exclude the “*physic-mongers*,” we greatly diminish the *apparent* strength of the Thomsonian school; but however gratifying it may be to the followers of Dr. SAMUEL THOMSON to know that their popularity, strength and usefulness, is daily augmenting, no real philanthropist will rejoice at the deceptive and *bloated* increase of his ranks by the use of *physic*.

The melancholy case reported in the last Manual, copied from the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel, relative to the death of a child caused by the administration of *croton oil* purchased at the shop of a *professed* Thomsonian, is sufficient to put every friend to the system on the alert. I am rather inclined to the opinion that present symptoms indicate the necessity of *one powerful cathartic*, sufficient to *purge forever from the ranks of Thomsonism every dabbler in PHYSIC*!

If my memory serves me, Dr. Armstrong, at whose

shop was purchased the drug above alluded to, stated on the witness-stand in New York at the trial of Dr. Frost, that he went through the studies and received his diploma as a regular physician; but becoming convinced that the mineral practice was *wrong*, and the Thomsonian practice *right*, he adopted the latter as a matter of conscience. When asked by the prosecution (which was endeavoring to prove that the Thomsonian remedies, even admitting them to be efficacious, should be administered only by regular physicians) if he did not find the studies he went through to fit him for the mineral, of essential service to him in the Thomsonian practice, the substance of Dr. A.’s reply was—“No! when I am called to the bed-side of the sick, I endeavor to forget all that was taught me during my regular studies; it is all useless—worse than useless—it would only tend to perplex.” I believe this to be the same Dr. Armstrong, but am not certain: if so, I would candidly ask him where he learned the use of *croton* and *castor oil*, except from the physicians of the old school? Most assuredly he can find nothing in the writings of Dr. Thomson to warrant the employment of such agents; and if he has had occasion to change his opinion and practice since making the declaration alluded to, duty to himself, to the public, and to Thomsonism, demands that he should so have it understood; in order that the Thomsonian system may not suffer for errors which his previous studies lead him into.

As the employment of cathartics in the Thomsonian practice, in some cases, is considered a debatable point, it is not my present intention to argue that they are always dangerous, (although I am fully persuaded they are,) but will allow the advocates of cathartics a greater latitude—the broadest possible latitude they can ask—and still think to be able to show sufficient cause why their use should forever be abandoned by Thomsonians.

It is urged that there are *certain cases* in which the exhibition of a cathartic medicine will produce a salutary result. Admit this for sake of argument. I now ask the greatest stickler for the use of *physic* that can be found among professed Thomsonians, if there are not also *certain cases* wherein the exhibition of a cathartic would prove highly injurious or even fatal? Universal experience answers in the affirmative. Again I ask, if enemas, such as prescribed by Thomsonians, were to be administered in the identical cases where cathartics would be extremely injudicious, would there be the least danger of an unhappy result—can a case be produced where a *Thomsonian enema* ever did harm? Universal experience here gives the negative reply. Is there no danger of cathartics being administered in some

cases where the effect would be injurious instead of favorable? There is at least a possibility of such an event. Now, if enemas are known never to be injurious, and it is admitted that cathartics, in some cases, *are* injurious, why not always prescribe the former, as they are certain to relieve (in connection with general treatment) in all cases where there could be any excuse for giving physic? Will any one urge as an argument the trouble or indelicacy of the practice, where human life is at stake? The cheapness of such an argument refutes itself.

"But," say the advocates of physic, "a skilful physician will be always adequate to decide at once in regard to cases where cathartics may be safely administered." This is a responsibility which no physician is competent to take upon himself—it is the accursed doctrine of the regular faculty, by which means they are enabled to drench humankind with their direful poisons! But even admitting the physician to be capable of judging, to a certainty, when the exhibition of a cathartic is indicated—for I feel inclined to give the gentlemen the full length of their rope—still there is an incontrovertible argument which holds good against the adoption of physic by Thomsonians. The greatest benefit mankind are to receive from the Thomsonian practice is looked for in its simplicity, in its entire safety. Excluding from its materia medica every article that is known to destroy life or derange health, the practice necessarily recommends itself to the social circle of every family. But if we are to adopt the use of medicines that are beneficial only in *certain cases*, and *injurious* in others, our practice loses at once that peculiar trait which now sustains its pre-eminence. It would then be no longer the *life-guard* of the PEOPLE—but the *pocket-guard* of the DOCTORS!

The greatest absurdity in this matter is, that this class of practitioners who recommend cathartics, style themselves "*Independents*!" Independent of whom—of what? Do they profess to be independent of Dr. Thomson and his instructions? Then they should have pride, honor, justice and conscience enough to be independent of his *name* also. "*Independents*!" Why, gentlemen, you are but *half emancipated*. You are still enslaved to the deep-rooted prejudices of fashion. Your motto is—"The people cry for PHYSIC—we give it them."

It is to be hoped that in the "New Book" which Dr Thomson is about to publish, he will not only discard altogether the use of physic, but portray the evil consequences arising from its use in so clear and conclusive a manner, as to silence forever the petty slurs of those little minds which harp so often upon what they call Dr. Thomson's recommendation of

cathartics in his Guide to Health; which amounts to no recommendation at all. He cautions his readers, all through the Guide to Health, against the use of physic; but because he names some articles of a cathartic nature which he considers the most safe, for those people to take who will have physic of some description, he is said to recommend cathartics.

If the day ever arrives when cathartics are employed by Thomsonians generally—which God forefend—that day seals the usefulness of Thomsonism. The *practice* will then be unsafe in the hands of the people—the PEOPLE will be unsafe in the hands of the DOCTORS.

HULL.

Boston, Sept. 20, 1841.

For the Manual.

DEATH FROM BLEEDING.

MR. EDITOR,—The following case of *popular* death by calomel, opium and the lancet, is so clear a manifestation of the effects of the "learned quackery" of the would-be-thought "science-stuffed" medical faculty of the day—as Drs. Waterhouse and Griffin call them—that it may not be altogether in vain to lay it before the people; that those in health may take warning and keep clear of the regulars, as they would shun death.

Being at Bethel, Vt., on the 6th inst., I was requested by a young gentleman by the name of Morse, to call and see a young lady by the name of Marsh, who, he said, had been sick a few days of typhus fever, at her uncle's, and under the care of Drs. Page and Holbrook of that place. He feared the loss of his best friend—the idol of his heart. I could but comply with his request. On entering the room, her wishful eye was fixed on me, and on being told I was a Thomsonian practitioner, she said she wished me to attend her. I asked her if she had been bled? Yes, twice, said she, and taken calomel and other stuffs, and I want you to attend me. I was satisfied she might be soon *relieved*, and in a few days *cured*, by thorough Thomsonian treatment, and told the family so; but they were unacquainted with our practice, and feared the trial. On leaving the house, I told them to be sure and not have her bled, for it would *kill her*; but the doctors came next morning and bled her freely. At 10, A. M., bled again; and wanted to again same day, but the family would not consent, so they *cupped* her, on the temple, which closed one eye forever. Next morning they were dismissed—but the fatal job was done! These "*blood-suckers*" had drawn the life-blood, and she must sink a victim to their murderous quackery. She died about 9 o'clock the evening of the 8th inst., the next night but one, after I

saw her. And what said these wise sons of Esculapius then? Why, after doctering her for *Typhus fever* all the time, then said it was *dropsy on the brain*. Several of their most experienced M. D.'s were called just previous to her death, by the afflicted young man, and they agreed, as I am told, that the loss of blood, was the cause of her sudden death. It is but just to say, that Miss Charlotte Marsh was a very lively girl of 23 years of age—beloved by all who knew her; and the excitement produced by her *cruel treatment and death*, is very great. The following testimony from their own authors, will set their bleeding in this case, in its true light.

Dr. Thacher says, "we have no infallible index to direct us. It is impossible, from the state of the circulation in fever, to point to any certain criterion for the employment of the lancet; the state of the pulse is often ambiguous and deceptive. Circumstances require the nicest discrimination, as the result is often very different in cases seemingly analogous. A precipitate decision is fraught with danger, and a mistake may be certain death."—Thacher's Practice, page 208.

"Some patients are bled who do not require it, and the consequences are injurious; others are bled who cannot bear it, and who ought to be treated by cordials, and the result is fatal."—Mackintosh, page 690.

"No Physician, however wise and experienced, can tell what quantity of blood ought to be taken in any given case."—Ib., page 418.

"In putrid fever, bleeding is not admissible. The loss of a few ounces of blood, being equivalent to a sentence of death."—Gentleman's Med. Pocket Book, page 35.

Professor J. F. Lobstein says, "so far from blood-letting being beneficial, it is productive of the most serious and fatal effects—a cruel practice—a scourge to humanity. How many thousands of our fellow citizens are sent by it to an untimely grave! how many families are deprived of their amiable children! how many husbands of their lovely wives! how many wives of their husbands! Without blood there is no heat, no motion in the system—in the blood is the life. He who takes blood from the patient, takes away not only an organ of life, but a part of life itself."—Essay on Blood-letting.

"So zealous are the blood-suckers of our age," says Salmon, in his 'Sanopsis Medicinæ' "that they daily sacrifice hundreds to its fury, like the children who, of old, passed through the fire to Moloch, and that without any pity, left to commiserate the inexplorable sufferings of their martyrs, or conscious of their crimes which may deter them in future from such villainies, the bare relation of which

would make a man's ears tingle, which one cannot think of without grief, nor express without horror!"

"An eminent physician has said that, after the practice of blood-letting was introduced by Sydenham, during the course of one hundred years, more died of the lancet alone, than all who in the same period perished by war."

Yours, &c.

JAHIEL. SMITH.

East Randolph, Vt., Sept. 17, 1841.

ORIGIN OF NERVOUS COMPLAINTS.

In respect to the causes of those chronic complaints to which sedentary persons are peculiarly exposed, there prevail very loose and inadequate notions, even among intelligent men. Very many mistake, by assigning as their origin, only one particular and limited cause. Some will tell you, that they proceed from the neglect of exercise alone; leaving out of the account diet and employment: others impute them to the want of attention to diet, and even to the use of particular articles, such as tea, coffee, &c. Others assign the great mental efforts, to which professional men are called at this day, as their cause; forgetful of the ponderous tomes of other centuries; which, to say the least, demanded intense, and protracted mental labor. Others impute them, in the case of literary men, to the unseasonable hours which they devote to study.

That each of these causes, and many others that might be named, are sometimes the sole source of nervous maladies, cannot be doubted: but no one of them is the universal cause. And in most cases, several of them are combined in undermining the constitution. We can only say, therefore, that, in general, they proceed from a want of proper attention to diet, regimen, and employment.—[Hitchcock.

DIARRHŒA.—People need not be long troubled with this disorder, so generally prevalent at this season, commonly known as the summer or bowel complaint, when the certain remedy therefore may be found on every man's dinner table, in the shape of salt and vinegar. Two tea spoonsful of the former, dissolved in half a gill of the latter, and swallowed at a draught will in most cases effect an instant cure. The second dose, if needed, will assuredly accomplish it. We are ready to give our certificate to Dr. Pickle in the premises, for we witnessed the proof. *Quod erat demonstrandum*—which is as much to say, in Dutch "it hasch been tride." This receipt should be published annually, every summer.—[Nantucket Inquirer.

✍ We think so too, if it is as valuable as above stated.—[Ed.

Dr. Samuel Thomson

RESPECTFULLY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st.

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [*better than those which* have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their *better* medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against DANIEL L. HALE, and JAMES OSGOOD, in Blackstone street, Boston, who call themselves Thomsonians, but with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmery at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman, whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheeps' clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The number of counterfeiters sent out from Blackstone street, is large, and they are locating themselves in various parts of the country. Of this class is a man by the name of Whitney, and another by the name of Simon Batchelor,—not exactly a Simon Pure,—in Nashua, N. H., both of the 'P. D. Badger stamp. This Whitney has a large sign bearing on it this inscription—"MEDICINE PREPARED BY THE GREAT FOUNDER OF THE THOMSONIAN SYSTEM"—although he has had no medicine of me for a long time. If these swindlers would stand before the public upon their own merits, and not palm off their "stuffs" as medicines prepared by me, I should not notice their transactions, but leave the community to seek its own means of protection against them. As it is, I feel it a duty to strip off their disguises, and show them to the public in their true light.

The value and efficacy of my medicines depend much upon the vegetables being collected at a proper time, and upon the manner of preparing them. No vegetable can be safely used as a medicine after it has begun to decay, or has been heated by laying in large piles. People who would have pure medicines, should either collect and prepare them themselves, or purchase only of those who are known to deal honestly.

N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *eighth volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the exertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at two DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES.

As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

* * * All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass. Boston, Mass., Sept. 1, 1841."

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the Crude Articles and Compounds made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African Cayenne, composition powders, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentary syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters.

Having built an eight horse power, Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, OCTOBER 15, 1841.

[NUMBER 23.

From the Hartford Times.

FAREWELL TO SUMMER.

Farewell to thee, Summer,
And thy sweet scented flowers,
Thy warm pleasant sunshine,
And cool fragrant showers,
Pale, pale are thy leaves,
And their beauties are fled,
And the winds sigh out mournfully
Summer is dead!

There 's a sound on the air
Of the cricket's lone mirth,
And heard are its notes
Round the cottager's hearth;
The notes of the birds
That once greeted the ear
Are hushed now in silence—
Pale Autumn is here!

It comes with a blight,
A chill withering breath,
And leaves on fair Summer
The impress of death,
A wail in the air
Of its absence can tell—
A dirge for fair Summer,
Its breath, its farewell!

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

DR. RUSH.

We have long enjoyed the belief that truth was *simple* upon all subjects. But when we take a survey of the world, how many groups do we behold, living, in the true sense of the word, on the credulity of mankind. What is called “medical science,” is in truth “learned ignorance,” so arranged and mystified as to dazzle the understanding of the unthinking multitude, who are more eager to grasp at shadows than they are at real substance. It is not necessary to make a distinction or draw a line between any one class of society, as it regards a knowledge of medicine, when it is manifest to every medical observer that a general prejudice prevails among all classes who are not disposed to examine for themselves. How often do we see men of the most brilliant talents, bowing in the most humiliating manner to the blind caprice of what is termed “a regular doctor.” How many, after undergoing all the tortures that poisons, purgatives, bleeding, leeching, cupping, starving and other means equally destructive to health and human life, are ready to exclaim, “Oh! that I had so ‘skilful’ a doctor!

VOL. VII.,—NO. XXIII.

My life ere this would have departed, and my body have been slumbering in the silent tomb!” But what is the reality, what the sequel to the treatment called “scientific”? Go, my friends, and visit those who have experienced such treatment, view them attentively—interrogate their feelings—and you will then be better qualified to judge of the effects of poison and depletion on the animal economy. Learn not to condemn that which thy understanding or experience teaches thee not, but rather court every opportunity to acquire knowledge. Nothing is more omnipotent than truth. We need not fear to meet the most formidable array if truth be our cause, and rather than flinch from an open encounter, we should court one. Truth will lose nothing by investigation, and therefore needs no laws or penalties for its support. Our opponents when they found they were deficient in argument have resorted to means unworthy a free and enlightened people, thus showing the same spirit, that in former times, enveloped the human mind in Egyptian darkness.

Dr. Thomson and his followers, have been sneered at for saying that any individual of ordinary capacity may make themselves competent to prescribe for the various maladies flesh is heir to; but when we have the best evidence of the fact before us, it would be unworthy the station we occupy to shrink from a duty so important to mankind in general. The most conclusive evidence has been shown that the Thomsonian remedies can be employed successfully by any individual of ordinary capacity.

Men (and women too) who never dreamt of physic, much less the practice of medicine, have not only been successful in practice, but we can adduce instances wherein they have put to flight those of the “regular faculty”, compelling them in many sections of the United States to change their residence! Besides this, we can adduce undeniable evidence that thousands have become converts to the Thomsonian system by using the remedies on themselves or seeing it given to others, and there are several hundreds who take our paper, *who do all* the doctrine in their families; and how many cases that have exhausted the skill (as it is called) of the most *learned* of the mineral faculty, have been cured by Thomsonian remedies. Thus has truth triumphed over envy, pride, and persecution, until the number of adherents to Thomson's system out number FOUR MILLIONS throughout the Uni-

ted States, and not a day passes that does not augment the number.

We have headed this article with the name of Dr. Rush, who, previous to his death, was a celebrated practitioner in this city—no man of his profession stood higher—and as our business is to do all in our power to break the charm that envelopes mankind in darkness on the importance of medical information we solicit the attention of our readers, to the following extract which is copied from his writings:—

“Let us strip our profession of every thing that looks like mystery and imposition, and clothe medical knowledge in a dress so simple and intelligible, that it may become a part of academical education in all our seminaries of learning. The truth is simple upon all subjects; and upon those essential to the general happiness of mankind, it is obvious to the meanest capacities. There is no man so simple that he cannot be taught to cultivate grain; and there is no woman who cannot be taught to make it into bread. And shall the means of preserving our health, by the culture and preparation of aliment be so intelligible, and yet the means of restoring it when lost, so abstruse that we must take years to study, to discover and apply them; to suppose this, is to call in question the goodness of the Deity; and to believe he acts without system and unity in his works. In thus recommending the general diffusion of medical knowledge by an academical education let it not be supposed that I wish to see the exercise of medicine abolished as a regular profession. Surgical operations, and diseases which rarely occur, may require professional aid; but the knowledge necessary for these purposes is soon acquired, and two or three persons separated from other pursuits, would be sufficient to meet the demands of a city consisting of forty thousand people.”

From the Thomsonian Messenger.

“I DON'T BELIEVE IN DOCTORING EVERY DISEASE ALIKE.”

With wise looks, the enemies to the Thomsonian practice are not unfrequently heard expressing themselves in the above language.—“Cayenne, lobelia, and steam, for every complaint, from a scorching fever down to a sore toe,” say they, “is perfect nonsense.”

Before remarking on this topic, we would remind such as are disposed thus to treat the subject of Thomsonism, that it is the better way to examine carefully both sides of a question before declaring any opinion; to “pull first the beam from our own eye, that we may see the mote more clearly to cast the mote from our brother's eye.”

It is well known that the opposing party boast of a great many remedial agents, as belonging to the “materia medica” of the old school; while they represent to the world that of the Thomsonians as being very limited. Limited or not, we have the whole of nature's garden to ramble o'er, in search of such “leaves” as are good for “the healing of the nations,” and of such “balms” as tend to make glad the hearts of the suffering sons of sorrow and affliction. And can the proud sons of Esculapius boast of more? Yea; they may boast of penetrating far into the bowels of earth, and fetching therefrom the most mysterious, virulent, and deadly mineral poisons, to stand first on their list of “heroic medicines;” while the “ignorant” Thomsonian is content to confine himself to its variegated surface, and to select from the roots, barks, herbs, and flowers, which the God of nature has scattered thereon in wild and rich profusion for the use of his creatures, such remedies as are perfectly harmless, though efficient to remove every curable disease: we say, they may boast of the relative difference which they strive to maintain between us in this respect. But we envy not acquirements of such a character, if they are to be our pole-star in aiding the *vis medicatrix naturæ* (healing powers of nature) in removing disease.

Again, how perfectly ridiculous it appears in a regular physician, to be found charging his Thomsonian brethren with treating all diseases alike, or with two or three articles, when he well knows that to deprive him of the use of mercury, opium, and the lancet, would make him, comparatively, as harmless among men as a lion without claws. In treating the complaints of children, mothers are well aware that the exhibition of calomel almost always opens the course in regular practice, after which follows opium in some of its preparations. In short, as a general thing, the treatment imposed upon both old and young, when there is any amount of disease, may be summed up in either opium and calomel, or calomel and opium, with an occasional bleeding, either general or local, a little nitre, and now and then a blister.

Thus any one with a few grains of observation, may readily discover that even the regulars depend upon a very few articles in their materia medica with which to contend against disease, and (what is most astonishing) that those articles are rank poisons; and also, that in almost all forms of disease of any magnitude, their general course is to bleed, physic, starve, and blister. Where, then, is the great variety in regular practice, over which they boast with such an air of wisdom and self-esteem? Echo answers—where?

From the same.

EMETICS.

Many objections are made by our opponents to the so frequent use of emetics by Thomsonian practitioners. Some even go so far as to assert that they seldom, if ever, ought to be administered; that their operation is altogether unnatural, inasmuch as every thing taken into the stomach, has naturally a tendency downward. Lecturers from New York, on Kelly's system, have expressed themselves in a like manner on this point; when, at the same time, they impressively urge the invalid to watch the operations and examples of nature, in casting off useless matter, and also, to imitate those examples. But we would inquire, if vomiting is not an effort of nature to throw off disease; and is not that example as worthy of imitation as any other, and more so? We say it is; and we believe that we have the best of reasons for so saying. We think that the capacity we have to vomit was not given us without design. The stomach is the fountain of life, the great receptacle to first receive whatever is taken for the support of nature. It is, generally speaking, also the first organ that becomes deranged. Is it unnatural then to suppose that vomiting is consistent with the economy of nature—that she should, in this way, throw off an offending cause, and thus get rid of an enemy the shortest way possible? Certainly not. We look upon it to be far more philosophical than to take a medicine which is calculated to force the whole mass of disease through the whole length of the intestinal canal, and thereby taint the whole system with its foulness, as it passes along, to say nothing of the poisonous influence of the cathartics often used.

Again: in regard to vomiting, we witness with admiration, in the infant, nature's effort to cast out what would otherwise become a source of distress, when it has drawn too bountifully from its lacteous fountain. This, in fact, may be called, in a healthy child, nature's *very first* operation in guarding against disease. By immediately emitting from its stomach that which is like to prove a source of mischief, much pain and distress are prevented, and perhaps even death itself. In this instance, therefore, we may trace the wisdom and goodness of the author of our existence, in providing for the wants of his children in their most helpless and dependent state, and in thus protecting them from frequent danger.

In some of the brute creation, likewise, we may find examples worthy of notice. We recollect that Dr. Kelly, while lecturing on medical subjects in this city, one year since, *after having condemned the use of emetics*, brought

forward an instance to illustrate the importance of observing and imitating nature's example, of a person who followed the course of a sick dog, in repairing early each morn to the garden, and lapping from a bed of camomile the pure drops of the night, and who, like the dog, by this means was restored to health, while in the last stage, as was supposed, of a lingering consumption. To this reference we have no sort of objection; we like the allusion much. But we like it no better, and consider the example no more worthy of observance than the one which we are about to present. It is well known that the dog is an animal that often vomits. It is also known that he sometimes seeks and eats of a certain vegetable, as though by instinct, and immediately after throws off the contents of his stomach by puking. To this we have been an eye-witness in a number of instances, and believe that whenever he partakes of the vegetable alluded to, it invariably has an emesis effect. If this be true, then we see not why it does not furnish an example as worthy of imitation as the one mentioned by Dr. Kelly himself, or as any other of a similar description.

CHAPTER ON HORSES.

To revive a horse when he is failing in hot weather, from hard laboring or riding, take a quarter of a pound of ginger or pepper, mix it in a pint of whiskey or other liquor, and you may add some molasses. Pour this down his throat, repeating the dose, if necessary, in half an hour. It is for want of internal heat, while the external heat is too great, that the animal gives out. Many horses might be saved if this simple remedy were adopted. Horses will be the better able to endure continued hard labor in heat, if some pepper were administered early in the day.

It is said that, by drenching horses with medicine for the bots, if the liquor be severe, it will cause the worms to eat the more to escape through the stomach, from the effects of it. But, by pouring down molasses or milk, or any thing of a pleasant taste, (which they will eat,) they will leave off eating the coat of the stomach, and eat the nourishment.

For costiveness in horses or cattle, nothing is better for use than the syringe (injection pipe.) Get one made of tin to hold about three pints. When the animal is bound, scald several ounces of ground pepper or ginger (powdered red pepper is best,) and give them from one to four injections into the bowels—first one, which will generally produce an operation, then two or three before the discharge, together to reach further into the intestines. Give also of the same into the stomach. Injections of hot med-

icine are also good for dysentery; as also drenching with the same. In cases of dysentery, cold has overpowered the stomach, and the consequence is a cold slime coats it and destroys the digestive powers, when dysentery ensues. Bleeding is as unnatural a remedy to restore it for horses as for persons.—*Gospel Publisher.*

RULES FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HEALTH.

BY SIR RICHARD JEBB.

The greatest preservatives of health, are exercise and temperance; these may be practised by all ranks, and at any season or place. Exercise throws off all superfluities, and temperance prevents them: exercise clears the vessels, and promotes the circulation of the blood.

A due degree of exercise is absolutely necessary to health.

Walking is the best exercise for those who are able to bear it; riding, for those who are not.

The air we breathe is the utmost importance to our health.

All persons who would preserve health should be as clean and sweet as possible in their houses.

Nothing conduces more to health, than abstinences and plain food.

All malt liquors, except clear small ale, or small beer, are hurtful; so are strong tea and coffee.

Costiveness is very hurtful to health, therefore care should be taken to remove it at the beginning by good medicines.

Obstructed perspiration (commonly called catching cold) is the great source of all diseases. Let it therefore be removed immediately by gentle sweats.

Physic, for the most part, is only a substitute for exercise and temperance.

To render exercise beneficial, it ought always to be taken in the open air, and to be of a nature to occupy the mind as well as the body.

The apothecary is chiefly employed to counteract the cook and vintner. Nature delights in the most plain and simple diet.

Most people are the best judges of their own constitution, and know what kind and what proportion of food agrees with them best.

Artificial provocations only create a false appetite.

If you cannot do without wine, never drink more than a few glasses.

A particular and very intelligent friend of mine (says Sir Richard) was extremely partial to what is called good living, and having a wife, of whom he was particularly fond, and a nume-

rous offspring, he was desirous of living long enough to see them settled in the world.

He was, however, of a very infirm constitution, till he was about fifty years old, when requesting my advice how to obtain that valuable end, I strongly recommended him to persist in an exact course of temperance and exercise, by duly attending to which, he recovered a sound and perfect state of health.

At the period I am speaking of, a train of infirmities had made great inroads in his constitution, and he had fallen into different kinds of disorders, such as the colic, gout, spasms, &c., and continual slow fever, so that the best delivery he had to hope for (except for the sake of his numerous family) was death, to end his pains and misery.

The result of my advice which I here give in his own words, is as follows: When, says he to me, I resolved firmly to live a temperate life, I soon found myself entirely freed from all my complaints, and have continued so even to this day, and I am now more than one hundred years old.

The meat and wine I constantly drink is such as agrees with my constitution, and being taken in proper quantities, I find impart all their virtue to my body, and leave it without engendering any bad humors.

And I am now convinced, that we should consider a regular life as a physician, and as our natural and proper physic, since it preserves us in health, makes us live sound and hearty to a great age, and prevents us dying of sickness through a corruption of humors.

Whoever, trusting either to his youth or strength of constitution, slights my observations, must live in constant danger of disease and death.

And I am now convinced, from experience, that the man who leads a regular and sober life, is more likely to live long and healthy, than a young man who leads an irregular and intemperate life, however strong his constitution may be.

I have heard some sensual, inconsiderate persons affirm, that a long life is no blessing, and that when a man has passed his 70th year he is better dead than alive.

This, however, I know to be an error, for I am now as well as ever I was in my life (and perhaps better); I even now relish every enjoyment of life better than when I was young. I sleep every night soundly and quietly, and all my dreams are pleasant and agreeable.

I am likewise now sure, that even persons of a bad constitution may, by leading a sober and regular life, live to as great an age as I have done; for, I declare solemnly, that my brain is as much itself now as ever it was.

Some, perhaps, will say, that, without leading a regular life, there have been some who lived to one hundred years, or more, and therefore think that they may be equally fortunate; but I must tell such persons that not one in ten thousand ever attain that happiness, and those who do, generally contract some disease which carries them off.

Therefore the surest way is to embrace sobriety.

What I call a regular and sober life, is not to eat and drink such things as disagree with the stomach, or not to eat or drink more than the stomach can easily digest.

There are, I know, some old epicures who insist that it is requisite they should eat and drink a great deal, in order to keep up their natural heat and strength, and that were they to lead a temperate life, it would be but a short one; but I know that large quantities of food cannot be digested, especially by old and feeble stomachs.

Old people should eat often, and in small portions.

Others will say, that a sober life may indeed keep a man in health, but cannot prolong life.

This I know likewise to be false; for I am myself a living instance of it, for had I not followed the advice of my friend, Dr. Jebb, but continued in my former way of living, I am sure I should have been in the grave years ago.

Oh! what a difference have I found between a regular and an irregular life; one gives health and longevity, the other disease and untimely death.

And it surely must be a great pleasure to a sober man to reflect, that the way he lives will keep him in good health, and be productive of no disease or impurity.

It is impossible, in the common nature of things, that he who lives a regular and sober life, should breed sickness, or die an untimely death, before the time at which it is impossible he should live; but sooner he cannot die, as a sober life removes all the usual causes of sickness, and sickness cannot happen without a cause.

Health and sickness, life and death, certainly depend on the qualities of the humors. Temperance corrects and renders them perfect, having the natural power of uniting and binding them together, so as to render them inseparable and incapable of alteration or fermentation, circumstances which engender cruel fever and end in death.

For myself, I find myself even now, at the age of 107, hearty and happy, eating with a good appetite, and sleeping soundly.

My senses are likewise as good as ever they were, my understanding as clear and bright as

ever, my judgment is sound, my memory tenacious, my spirits good, and my voice (the first thing generally that fails us) strong and sonorous, and certainly these are true and sure signs that my humors are good, and cannot waste but with time.

I likewise enjoy the satisfaction of conversing with men of bright parts and superior understanding, from whom even at this advanced period, I learn something.

What a pleasure and comfort it is, that, at my time of life, I should be able, without the least fatigue, to study the most important subjects; nor is it possible that any one should grow tired of such delightful enjoyments, which every one else might enjoy by only leading the life I have led.

So that to finish my discourse, I say, since length of days abounds with so many blessings, and I happen to be one who has arrived at that state, it is, I conceive, my bounden duty to give testimony in favor of it; and solemnly assure all mankind that I really (even at this time of life) enjoy more happiness than I can describe, and that what I have here stated is solely to demonstrate the great advantages derived from longevity, and that others may be induced to observe the delightful rules of temperance and sobriety.

A sober man relishes every enjoyment of life; drunkenness expels reason, drowns the memory, defaces beauty, diminishes strength, inflames the blood, causes internal, external and incurable wounds, makes a strong man weak, and a wise man a fool; he drinks to the health of others, and robs himself of his own.

Now, taking my leave, I say, may others' years be as long and as happy as mine, and may they live in virtue and good will towards all.

THE GRANERY.

BY REV. A. C. THOMAS.

"Whoso readeth, let him understand."

"Jonathan Homespun, having purchased an extensive farm, and provided himself with every thing requisite to prosperous husbandry, proposes to furnish subscribers with one quart of wheat weekly for one year, at the low price of one dollar and fifty cents, in advance; two dollars at the end of six months; or two dollars and fifty cents if not paid till the close of the year.

"The facilities afforded by the government, for the transportation of wheat to every section of the Union and adjacent provinces, are such as must prove satisfactory to every subscriber; and the proprietor of the Granary assures all

who may patronize him, that he will exert himself to supply an article of the best quality.

N. B.—Agents will be allowed a generous per centage. Address (post paid) proprietor of the Granary, Hopewell."

Such was the prospectus issued by my friend Mr. Homespun. Feeling a lively interest in his welfare, I visited his farm, although it was a long journey from my home, and was pleased to find every thing in nice order. He informed me that he had contracted a large debt in the purchase of the premises stock and implements of husbandry, but that he had no doubts of his ability to discharge every obligation in a few years. He also stated that he had already received many hundred subscribers, and that in our or five weeks he would commence the delivery of the wheat according to his proposals.

The scheme appeared plausible; and my friend was so confident of his success, that I had not the slightest doubt of his prosperity. I entered my name as a subscriber, and when I left him he was preparing many thousand quart sacks.

Every week for the space of two years, I received my quart of wheat, and, concluded from its excellent quality and prompt delivery, that every thing was prosperous with Jonathan Homespun and his farm. So I gave myself no concern about my indebtedness to him—for, said I "to a farmer so extensively patronized as he is, the small pittance of two years' arrearages would be but a drop in the bucket." It is true, there was occasionally printed on the sacks a general notice to delinquents—but I never suspected that this was intended for his friends.

The notice, however, became more frequent; and having leisure, I concluded I would visit my friend, the proprietor of the Granary. He greeted me cordially—but I saw there had been trouble. He was evidently worn with toil and anxiety; and in the conversation of the evening, he entered into particulars.

"Here I have been laboring day and almost night for two years; and I am more in debt now than when I began. My creditors are pressing for payment; I am conscious of inability to meet their demands, and can perceive no result but bankruptcy and ruin."

"But have you not a large list of subscribers?" said I.

"Yes, a very large list," was the reply; "but too many of them are like you!"

"Me!" I quickly rejoined in amazement; "too many like me!"

"Pardon me," said my friend, in a melancholy tone—"pardon me, for oppression will make even a wise man mad.

You have had a quart of wheat weekly for two years—and I have not had a cent of pay-

ment; I have a large list of the same kind of patrons scattered here and there over thousands of miles. If they would pay me the trifles they severally owe me, I should be directly freed from embarrassment, and go on my way rejoicing. But they reason as you reasoned; and, among you, I am brought to the door of poverty and ruin."

I felt the full force of the rebuke, and promptly paying arrearages at the increased price named in the prospectus, and also a year in advance, I shortly bid adieu to the worthy and wronged farmer, resolving to do every thing in my power to repair the injury which had been accruing from my delinquency.

O ye patrons of Jonathan Homespun! wherever ye are or whoever ye are! ye who have received and eaten the wheat from his Granary, without making payment! Ye are guilty of a grievous sin of commission. Therefore repent. Pay the farmer what you owe him. Uncle Sam's teamsters bring you the sack of grain every week, and Uncle Sam's teamsters will carry the money safely to Jonathan Homespun.

OCCUPATIONS.

There is not a more foolish notion afloat in the world, than the one that it is the occupation that gives character to the man. One occupation, as the means of "getting a living," as the phrase goes, is precisely as high and credible as another, provided that it be honorable. The man who holds the plough, hammers his iron, or drives his peg to support his family with the necessities and comforts of life, is not a whit below the one who measures tape behind the counter, mystifies the law at the bar, or presides at the councils of the nation. There is a vulgar and most pernicious feeling abroad in the community on this subject. Fathers must educate their sons for one of what is called "the learned profession." Daughters must marry a lawyer, a doctor a clergyman, or a merchant. Horror! the good lady would as soon think of marrying her daughter to a Winnebago as to a homely, industrious, and honorable mechanic. Why, the family would be disgraced, the name dishonored. No! no! The business of a carpenter, a blacksmith, or a farmer, is not so respectable as that of shaving notes, drawing stolidity from the desk, peddling rotten wood or pills, or selling snuff and tobacco. And yet, the duties of all the learned professions, as well as those of a mercantile, are performed for the same reason that a shoemaker waxes his thread, and the farmer plants his potatoes, viz: to obtain a living! Still, a set of miserable, upstart fools, who are almost universally low bred people themselves, people who have begun life in the

ditch, endeavor to establish in society artificial distinctions which they hope will elevate them above the common mass from which they were taken, and give to them an importance when innate worth and honesty could not command them. Labor is labor. Honest labor is honest labor. Honest and honorable labor are the same whether performed by the King or the beggar, and is just as honorable in the one as the other. It is true, that all men by habit and by taste are not fitted to pursue the same vocations, and there are natural divisions, not distinctions, as the word is commonly used, created by harmony and taste. This is as it should be, and fits us for a discharge of all the peculiar duties that devolve upon us as members of society. But to say that because a man performs any given duty, however humble, though necessary, degrades him or renders him less meritorious than his neighbor who performs another duty, yet not more faithfully, is to say that we still adhere to the monarchical principles of the old world.

Let the father educate his son to some honorable calling, and if he has predilections for any particular business, as is often the case, let him follow it, if it be possible—it is the man that ennobles the business, not the business that ennobles the man; and not spend a thought upon the distinctions in occupations, honorable and honest, that fools have attempted to build up. Let children be taught to be honorable, honest, and upright, to set a proper value upon the riches of a world which is only at best, a bubble, blown into existence to-day to burst to-morrow, and to understand that the only true and real distinctions in society are those of virtue and vice, and that the only true and enduring riches are an intellect duly cultivated, affections schooled, and a heart that knows no guile.—[Spirit of the Age

GOOD AND BAD NEWS.—Bad news weakens the action of the heart, oppresses the lungs, destroys the appetite, stops digestion, and partially suspends all the functions of the system. An emotion of shame flushes the face; fear blanches; joy illuminates; and an instant thrill electrifies a million of nerves. Surprise spurs the pulse to a gallop. Delirium infuses great energy. Volition commands, and hundreds of muscles spring to execute. Powerful emotion often kills the body at a stroke. Dingoras, Sophocles, died of joy at the Grecian games. The news of a defeat killed Philip V. One of the Popes died of an emotion of the ludicrous on seeing his pet monkey robed in pontificals and occupying the chair of State. Muly Molock was carried upon the field of battle in the last stages of an incurable disease; upon seeing his army give way he rallied his panic-stricken

troops, rolled back the tide of battle, shouted victory and died! The doorkeeper of Congress expired on hearing of the surrender of Cornwallis. Eminent public speakers have often died in the midst of an unimpassioned burst of eloquence, or when the deep emotion that produced it had suddenly subsided. Lagrave, the Parisian, died when he heard that the musical prize for which he had competed was adjudged to another. Hill at New York was apprehended for theft, and taken before the police; though in perfect health, mental agony forced the blood from the nostrils, and he was carried out, and died.

THE POOR MAN'S LIFE.—Let but the rich man look into the miseries of the poor man's life, and if the petrifying effects of power and wealth have not absolutely changed his heart into a stone, he will feel how cheerfully as well as fully he ought to discharge the few duties which the advantages of his situation involve. The poor man's life is one of toil and privation from the cradle to the grave; the unceasing "sweat of the brow" barely can earn his daily bread—his utmost labor can scarcely feed him with the coarsest fare, can scarcely clothe him with the meanest covering. His appetites and affections are like those of other men, and if he lawfully indulge them, and marry, he has his wife and his children to support as well as himself. And then if sickness comes—oh! there is nothing under heaven so dreadful as the sick bed of the poor! In addition to the positive suffering, he has the consciousness at his heart, that the cessation of labor is the cessation of the means of life to himself, and to those still dearer. And the suffering! with all the aids and appliances that wealth can give, we know what very wretches sickness makes us; what then must it be to him who has none of them! no appropriate, if any food—neither sufficient warmth, nor covering, nor shelter—neither medicine nor medical aid—and it may be, none to tend to the wants and soothe the sufferings of disease!

INFANT COURAGE AND GENEROSITY.—Two bulls, of equal bravery, although by no means equally matched in size and strength, happening to meet near the front of a Laird's house, in the highlands of Scotland, began a fierce battle, the noise of which soon drew to one of the windows the lady of the mansion. To her infinite terror, she beheld her only son, a boy between five and six years of age, belaboring with a stiff cudgel the stouter of the belligerents. "Dugald, Dugald, what are you about?" exclaimed the affrighted mother. "Helping the little bull!" was the gallant young hero's reply.

PERSEVERE.

The want of the exercise of this faculty has been the cause of the downfall of many an honest and good hearted person. It is often the case that an enterprise, undertaken with every prospect of success, fails of bringing forth the well grounded anticipations of prosperity, and all the hopes of realizing a competence, and indeed independence, are blasted, sometimes by unforeseen events which could not be avoided, and sometimes by the frauds, villanies, or reckless extravagance and profligacy of persons with whom you are connected, who eat up your substance and involve you in liabilities unknown to you, and from which you cannot afterward escape, and thus you become a prey to harpies of the worst kind. Such things are a trial to your patience and forbearance, and are almost too much for corrupt human nature to bear. An honest confidence in men of supposed and generally reputed integrity, brings you into difficulties and trouble whereby your substance is wasted, and you find yourself reduced to want by unprincipled persons who are reckless of consequences, and are indifferent to the disastrous results to their best friends; friends who have sacrificed all to sustain them, till at last the fatal reality bursts upon you, and you find you have been dealing with knaves and villians, who have eaten up your substance and squandered your all.

It requires no little degree of philosophy to bear up under such misfortunes. It requires a mental energy which is not possessed by all, or even a considerable portion of the people who are thus entrapped unwarily into fangs which destroy their future earthly prospects. Many a one is thus ruined, cast down, and desponds. But *persevere* is the only course to pursue. Be not discouraged; be not dismayed. The evil has fallen upon you, and you must bear up under it as firmly as possible. Every man who has merit, and honesty, and industry, will find friends, who will assist and encourage him if he deserves encouragement. *Persevere* even unto the end. Attempts may be made to retrieve losses. They prove unsuccessful, but *persevere*. "Better luck next time," says Jacob Faithful. Never despair. The darkest hour is just before the dawn of day. If you have fallen among thieves, be thankful that they have spared your life. *Persevere*, and honesty will reap its just reward. If you give way to despondency and despair, you are not acting your part well. *Persevere* to the best of your ability, and you will ultimately succeed. It is not to be expected that every thing will at all times go on smoothly and prosperously. There is no rose without its thorn. If we experience the bitter, we must hope for a share of the sweet also.

UTILITY OF KNOWLEDGE.

Neither constables nor bayonets, nor muskets, can prevent the deviltry of incendiarism and various other means of stealthy outrage. No, these can alone be prevented by the quiet and internal agency of moral conviction.

None but the blindest ignorance can harbor the belief that these villanies are instrumental to good; nevertheless, this blind ignorance does exist and nothing but its removals can remove its results.

More knowledge is wanted, moreover, to teach men the impolicy of selfishness, to teach men that nothing that injures their neighbors can by any possibility ultimately benefit them. If there were no power on the part of one man to retaliate the injuries he receives, selfishness might temporally speaking, benefit the aggressor; but this is not the case; selfishness is reciprocal, and a man can and does repay injury by injury, and thus does selfishness beget a state of mutual injuries by which there cannot be a question that society at large, and hence individuals, are the sufferers—the losers and not the gainers.—Now education is necessary to enable men to see these things. Every fire that burns, every riot that occurs, every slaughter committed and every crime perpetrated, are so many evidences, not only of popular ignorance, but of the crime of those men who, for the sake of petty, groveling, selfish, partisan interest are opposing efforts of the government to give light to the whole people, and more especially to that part of the people who do not belong to the established or any other form of worship.—[Will's Independent.

SHADE TREES.—What a singular and unaccountably strange thing it is, that those who settle in forests wage a war of extermination against every tree, not even leaving a single one for shade for man or beast. Look at his log cabin, standing alone in the bright broad glare of sunshine, with nothing upon which the morning lark could perch but a stump near his window, to wake him with her cheerful song.

Reader, go plant a tree. And when the birds come and rest in its branches and pour forth their melody, it will be more soothing to thy mind than ever was that cup to which so many resort to sooth the cares and troubles of life, and which is the cause of sending so many to that dark shade from which they can see no gleam of sunshine, or have no lovely melody of the pleasure inspiring birds, or see the expanding beauties of the love inspiring flower. But teach your children to love these innocent sources of happiness, and they will have less temptation before them to seek pleasure where they will find ruin.

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, OCTOBER 15, 1841.

✍ We are sorry to have to inform the readers of the Manual that Doct. GRAY, who was expected to have commenced his editorial campaign with this number, has been prevented, by previous engagements from attending to that duty so soon as was expected.

✍ ONE NUMBER MORE

Will bring the present volume of the Manual to a close. Those of its subscribers who do not wish it continued to them for another year will please give notice to that effect, immediately to the proprietor, post paid, or by their postmaster, free. All who do not thus stop their paper, will be considered subscribers for the Eighth Volume. All who are indebted for any of the previous Volumes are requested to make immediate payment.

CHILDREN POISONED BY BLACKING.—At Germantown, last week, one of the children attached to a public school at that place, found in the garret of the house in which the school is held, a box of old shoe blacking, which, from age, presented a lightish color, and possessed rather an agreeable taste. The prying curiosity of children had to be gratified with a taste of it, and some of them, probably from a spirit to outdo their playmates, ate portions of it, which soon caused severe pains in the stomach, vomiting &c. Nine of the children were thus attacked; some of whom, however, returned to school the next day; another lingered some time, and is not yet entirely recovered; while the other, the son of Mr. John King, aged about ten years, unfortunately died, after much suffering.

The practice of cleansing bottles with shot is a dangerous one, as the shot contains arsenic. To cleanse bottles well and quick, half fill them with spring water, add a sheet of waste paper torn into small pieces and shake them well or until the water froths.

✍ Our readers were informed in our last, that Doct. Jehiel Smith, of E. Randolph, Vt., had been prosecuted, by some of the poison gentry—charged with causing the death of one of his patients.—The course of treatment which was pursued in attending the deceased, together with the complaint served on the Doctor, will be found below. We did not believe that a person could be found in the ranks of the mineralite, who was so inconsistent as to get up a prosecution, at this late day, against a *Thomsonian* because a patient died under his care. But it seems we were mistaken. Lying, and misrepresentation, are the weapons they constantly use, but we trusted they had long ago seen the folly of resorting to law, by which to subdue a good system; these disease breeding, poison vending, blood-letters, if they were wise, would see their own safety, in letting Thomsonians alone; for if doctors are liable for all who die under their care, the M. Ds. will stand a poor chance, as it is well known that they lose ten patients where a Thomsonian loses one.

"OH DEAR! WHAT CAN THE MATTER BE?"

With the Regulars and their coadjutors in Barre, Vt., and vicinity! They are evidently in trouble, and like the mountain in "labor," too; but whether they will bring "forth a mouse," remains to be seen.

EAST RANDOLPH, VT., SEPT. 27, 1841.

Dr. Thomson—Dear Sir; I have often exclaimed, upon reading your account of your imprisonment in 1819, What ignorance, prejudice, and folly, were manifested by Dr. French and his abettors in that shameful transaction; and wondered at the calmness and composure with which you submitted to the vilest abuse. But I was never more sensibly reminded of this, than last evening, while writing a report of a few cases for your paper; for while sitting with pen in hand, the accuser and the officer were even at the door, and I was presently informed that, he had an *arrest* for me, in behalf of the State, for an "assault upon one Jonathan Sherburne, with force and arms," (the pewter-gun, I suppose) or what is the same thing—Lobelia, Cayenne, and Steam. Oh hum!

That yourself and the public may know in what light to look upon this vain attempt of the opposition, to stop the wheels of Thomsonism in this place, and to *kill me*, I will state the case in few words, and send you the copy of the complaint left me by the officer. The facts are these:—

I attended Mr. Sherburne—an old *calomel* case—with SORES, &c.—in 1835, while I was residing in Barre, Vt., and *restored* him to the enjoyment of tolerable health, although he had been supposed in consumption for a long time, and *had employed* the REGULARS in vain; and he was so sensible of great relief and permanent benefit from *Thomsonian* treatment, that he always said he would never have any other, if he could obtain it. His health con-

tinued about the same, so that he could do a pretty good day's work at his trade, (which was that of a cabinet-maker) by using occasionally, when more unwell than usual, a little cayenne, composition, bitters, and No. 6, which he bought of me from time to time, until a few weeks previous to his death. About the first of July last, he was quite unwell, came to the infirmary, took one course of medicine—said he felt much better, and went home next morning in stage, 18 miles to Barre.

I heard nothing from him till the evening of the 19th July, when, on my return from Chelsea and Tunbridge, where I had been to visit the sick, I found him in the gentleman's bathing-room; and upon inquiring, he said he felt greatly relieved by the course of medicine which my student, Mr. Barrett, had given him that day;—but said he was *very much worse* than when he left before. He then stated that on getting home he began to work *too soon*—had so many coffins to make for the DOCTOR'S PATIENTS, that he overdid, and had his fears about getting over it very soon; that the *Regular*, with whom he boarded, had attended him some days, and finding he could not help him, he advised him to go back to the Infirmary, for steaming would do him the *most good*, &c. He had lost flesh and strength very fast—had a *consumptive* appearance, and no one who saw him here, thought he could live but a short time; but his greatest suffering was caused by a severe attack of inflammation of the hip joint. We gave him another *course* the 20th, which he said *relieved* him very much indeed; and on Wednesday morning he walked out a few rods, and called in at the next house—Mr. Spencer's, and related to them the substance of the above, expressing his great confidence in the Thomsonian medicine, and his *entire satisfaction* with the *effects* of the two "courses" he had then taken—Monday and Tuesday. He soon came in—*wanted* to take another *course*, as he found the *cause* was not removed, though he had been greatly *relieved*, by the two he had taken; but I advised him to take a gentle bath, and keep up the action afterwards, by a steaming-stone at his feet, and composition and nerve powder tea, through the day, to which he finally acceded. But, notwithstanding all we could do, he continued to fail—his hip grew worse, and next day morning I found him so low, that I had but little hopes of him; but, as he was, there was no chance for him without another course, and he wished to try it. Mr. Barrett gave him a *bath*, as usual, about 11 o'clock A. M., which *relieved* his pain, for a short time, but he soon grew worse again, and I was called to the room to see him; and as Rev. Mr. Garfield and Mr. Slocumb had come to take medicine, they accompanied me to see Mr. Sherburne. I found him in great pain in his hip, and such were his symptoms, I told them I *feared* he would *die*—being an old case, and of consumptive habits. I gave nothing but a little composition tea, with a little cayenne and nerve powder, with simple drinks; for I did not suppose it of any use. He died about 6 o'clock, P. M., on Thursday the 23d day of July last—the fourth day after coming back to the Infirmary—of *Mortification* and *old ailments*. The corrupted matter ran out of his mouth and nose before he died.

The corpse was removed in a *lumber wagon* to Barre, 20 miles, the next day—put into a tomb—and

the *next Monday*, was examined by the M. D.'s and their friends, unknown to me, and the result is, a *prosecution* for an "*assault*," &c.—and surety in the sum of \$1,000 for my appearance at court, the 12th of next month. The result of the trial, I will send you. I should have stated that for several hours previous to his death, he was in so much pain in his hip, that he would scream and halloo as loud as he could, "My hip! my hip!" &c.—and it took two men to hold him in bed; but when mortification took place, about 4 o'clock, he became perfectly easy, and lay breathing shorter and shorter, the bloody, corrupted matter now and then running from his mouth and nose, till about 6 o'clock P. M., when he died without a groan or a struggle—leaving a little motherless girl, and a large circle of relatives and friends, to mourn his loss. He was about 30 years of age, and beloved by all who knew him. Yours, truly,
J. SMITH.

COPY OF COMPLAINT.

State of Vermont, } To WILLIAM NUTTING, Esq.,
Orange County ss. } one of the Justices of the Peace, within and for the county of Orange, comes *George Carpenter*, one of the Grand Jurors of the town of Randolph, in said county, in his proper person, and on his oath of office, complaint makes, and gives said Justice to understand and be informed, that JEHIEL SMITH of said Randolph, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the Devil, on the 23d day of July now last past, with force and arms at Randolph aforesaid, in and upon one *Jonathan Sherburne*, in the peace of God and of this State, then and there being, wilfully and feloniously an assault did make, and certain hurtful and injurious and dangerous and inflammatory powders, commonly called Composition Powders, secretly prepared, mixed, and made by him, said Jehiel Smith, together with large and dangerous quantities and doses of hurtful and dangerous pepper, commonly called Cayenne Pepper, and large quantities of hurtful Lobelia feloniously did give and administer and then and there feloniously did cause and procure to be administered and given to him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, to be by him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, taken and swallowed down into his stomach and bowels, he, the said Jehiel Smith, then and there well knowing said powders, pepper, and lobelia, so prepared, mixed, and made, and in such large quantities and doses as aforesaid, to be hurtful, injurious, dangerous and inflammatory—and the said powders and pepper and lobelia so prepared, mixed, and made, as aforesaid, by him, the said Jehiel Smith, and so by him given and administered as aforesaid to the said Jonathan Sherburne, he, the said Jonathan Sherburne, not knowing the same to be hurtful, injurious, dangerous and inflammatory as aforesaid, did then and there take and swallow down into his stomach and bowels, and the said powders and pepper and lobelia so given and administered as aforesaid, by him, the said Jehiel Smith, and so given, taken, and swallowed down into the stomach and bowels of him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, did cause and make in and upon the stomach and bowels of him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, sundry mortal sores and wounds, to wit., one sore in the stomach of him, the said Jonathan Sherburne,

of the length of four inches and of the depth of two inches and of the width of three inches, and furthermore, he, the said Jehiel Smith, did then and there put and confine the said Jonathan Sherburne in a certain box prepared by him, the said Smith, and then and there negligently, carelessly, ignorantly, rashly, wickedly, and feloniously, did let and convey in and upon the body and limbs of him, the said Sherburne, so put and confined in said box as aforesaid, large quantities of hot steam, thereby heating, scalding, and burning the body and limbs of him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, and thereby inflicted sundry dangerous and mortal wounds, sores, burns, and scalds, upon the body and limbs of him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, to wit., one sore of the length of four inches and of the depth of two inches and of the width of three inches, and by means of the giving and administering said injurious and hurtful powders and pepper and lobelia, as aforesaid, and in such large and dangerous quantities and doses as aforesaid, and the taking and swallowing down the same by the said Jonathan Sherburne as aforesaid, and by reason of the wound and sores thereby inflicted in and upon the stomach and bowels of him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, so as aforesaid, and by reason of the steaming, scalding, and burning of the body and limbs of him, the said Jonathan Sherburne as aforesaid, he, the said Jehiel Smith, did then and there wickedly, carelessly, negligently, ignorantly, rashly and feloniously, cause and procure the said Jonathan Sherburne to become mortally sick and diseased in his body, of which said mortal sores, wounds, steaming, scalding and burning, and mortal sickness and disease of his, the said Sherburne's, body, he the said Jonathan Sherburne, then and there did languish and languishingly did live, and then on said 23d day of July, now last past, at Randolph aforesaid, as well of the said mortal sores, wounds, steaming, scalding and burning, as also of said mortal sickness and disease of his body aforesaid, did die. And so the Grand Juror aforesaid, on his oath aforesaid, does say that the said Jehiel Smith, him the said Jonathan Sherburne in manner and by means aforesaid, feloniously did kill and slay, contrary to the form, force and effect of the statute in such cases made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State. And the Grand Juror aforesaid, on his oath aforesaid, further complains, that the said Jehiel Smith, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the Devil, on the 19th day of July, now last past, and on divers other days and times between that day and the 23d day of the same July with like force and arms, at said Randolph, in and upon the body of the said Jonathan Sherburne, in the peace of God and of this State, did make one other assault, and then and there on said 19th day of July, and said other days and times, carelessly, ignorantly, negligently, rashly, and feloniously did give and administer and then and there carelessly, ignorantly, negligently, rashly and feloniously did cause and procure to be administered and give to said Jonathan Sherburne to be taken and swallowed down by him the said Jonathan Sherburne, into his stomach and bowels, divers other dangerously large quantities and doses of noxious, hurtful, and injurious powders, commonly called composition powders, and dangerously large quantities of hurtful pepper, commonly called

cayenne pepper, and divers large quantities of noxious and hurtful lobelia, secretly prepared and mixed by him the said Jehiel Smith. And the said Jonathan Sherburne, not knowing said powders, and pepper, and lobelia, in such large quantities and doses to be so noxious, hurtful and injurious, did afterwards, to wit, on said 19th day of July, now last past, and on said divers other days and times, by the knowledge, consent, and procurement of the said Jehiel Smith, take and swallow down into his stomach and bowels, divers large quantities of said noxious and hurtful powders, and pepper, and lobelia, which said powders, and pepper, and lobelia, so given and administered as aforesaid, by said Jehiel Smith, and so taken and swallowed down by him, said Jonathan Sherburne, into his stomach and bowels as aforesaid, did create and make in and upon the stomach and bowels of him, said Jonathan Sherburne, divers mortal wounds and sores, to wit, one mortal sore of the length of 5 inches, and of the width of 3 inches, and of the depth of 2 inches, and the said Jehiel Smith furthermore, on the said 19th day of July, now last past, and on said divers other days and times, at said Randolph, carelessly, ignorantly, rashly, and feloniously put and confined him, the said Jonathan Sherburne, in a certain Box, made and prepared by him the said Jehiel Smith, and then and there, on said 19th day of July, and on said divers other days and times, ignorantly, carelessly, negligently, rashly, wickedly and feloniously, did let and convey in and upon the body and limbs of him the said Jonathan Sherburne, so confined in said box as aforesaid, divers other large quantities and currents of hot steam, then and there, thereby heating, scalding and burning the body and limbs of him the said Jonathan Sherburne, and thereby inflicting, making and creating upon the body and limbs of him the said Jonathan Sherburne, divers and sundry other mortal scalds, burns, sores and wounds, to wit: one mortal sore of the length of 5 inches, of the width of 4 inches, and of the depth of 2 inches. And the said Jehiel Smith, by reason of giving and administering said noxious and hurtful powders, and pepper, and lobelia, and in such large quantities and doses so swallowed down by said Sherburne as aforesaid, and thereby causing said sores and wounds in the stomach and bowels of him the said Jonathan Sherburne, and by reason of the so steaming, heating, scalding and burning the body and limbs of him the said Jonathan Sherburne, and thereby inflicting, making and creating on his, said Sherburne's body and limbs, said mortal sores, wounds, scalds and burns, ignorantly, carelessly, negligently, rashly and feloniously did cause and procure the said Jonathan Sherburne to become mortally sick and diseased in his body, of which mortal sores, wounds, scalds, burns and mortal sickness and disease of his body, the said Jonathan Sherburne, from said 19th day of July, now last past, until the 23d day of the same July, did languish, and languishingly did live, and then and there, on said 23d day of July, now last past, at Randolph aforesaid, as well of said mortal sores, wounds, scalds and burns, as also of said mortal sickness and disease of his body aforesaid, did die. And so the Grand Juror aforesaid, on his oath aforesaid, does say that the said Jehiel

Smith, him the said Jonathan Sherburne, in manner and by means aforesaid, feloniously did kill and slay, contrary to the form and force of the statute, &c. **GEORGE CARPENTER,**

Grand Juror.

A true copy of the complaint,

M. K. H. C. CARPENTER,
Dep. Bailiff.

☞ We gave notice in our last, that Doct. THOMSON'S New Book was at length completed and ready for sale, by him at No 40 Salem street. The following notice of the work is from a letter of Professor Bankston, of the Southern Botanic Medical College at Forsyth, Ga., to Dr. John Thomson of Albany, N Y.

"Forsyth, Ga., Aug. 14th, 1841.

It affords me much pleasure to see issuing from the press a work under the sanction of Doct. S. Thomson, of the appearance and character of the *Thomsonian Materia Medica*. Such a work has long been wanted, and the Thomsonian system has suffered much for the want of such an one. Its style is really genteel—such as the worth of the cause demands. The matter we consider well arranged, and is calculated to do credit to the writer and compiler. The theory we conceive to be good, and the articles of medicine, so far as we have seen, will meet the views of the large body of Thomsonians. The plates, both Anatomical and Botanical, are neatly executed, and cannot be complained of by any.

In a word—We entertain no doubt but more real benefit will result from it than have from all other Botanic works combined. In the first place, its appearance will command the attention of the first minds—sufficient, no doubt, to secure for it a perusal; and its reasoning is such as to convince. We think it might be profitably extended even to *one thousand pages*, in giving the particular treatment of important diseases; and should the author think fit, the treatment of particular diseases of Women with Obstetrics, would be an important auxiliary and stimulus to its sale as well as real usefulness. On the subject of evacuates, you carry the thing just about as far as necessary, and none too far. Physiology sustains about your position on that subject; and it will, I doubt not, remove the cause of that hair-breadth splitting which has seemed to give you some trouble at the north. As for active cathartics, I have no use; but to excite some action upon the bowels is as necessary as upon the skin in many diseases; and I presume it is oftener called for in this climate than in yours. To attempt to *criticise* the work, we think would be rather a useless business, for what we might find fault with would please many others.

We conceive the arrangement and style of the work is very good, and will give general satisfaction; it carries upon its face the evidence of no small share of labor in so short a time.

Respectfully yours, &c.

L. BANKSTON.

Dr. J. Thomson, Albany, N. Y.

A SWEET BREATH.

Perhaps it is not generally known, that upon the sweetness of the breath depends the delicacy of the smell and taste. The individual of a noxious, fetid breath, loses, in an exact degree to its fetidness, the pleasure resulting from these two senses. By degrees as it increases in its virulence, the faculty of smell becomes almost entirely extinct. The sweetest rose and the most filthy weed are pretty much the same. Hence it is that you seldom see a person of a foul breath fond of flowers.

The principal causes of a foul breath are decayed teeth. The fetor is inhaled and respired at every breath. It is almost impossible to conceive the quantity from a single tooth. It is said to be more injurious to the health, than to live constantly within ten rods of a decaying carcass. The vital current of life is poisoned. By degrees the lungs themselves become diseased, and the case is desperate. To preserve a pure breath, have every rotten tooth cleansed and plugged, and those that are hopelessly decayed removed. Do not procrastinate a single week. You are exposed to permanent disease. The loss of smell and taste induces fevers, dyspepsia, consumption. What more disgusting than a fetid breath! Cicero reproaches Piso in the midst of a Roman Senate as being insufferable on account of it. The causes of the decay of the teeth are, too much sugar or saccharine matter in childhood and youth; the use of mercury as a medicine; picking them with pins; cracking nuts; hot drinks; and eating frozen apples; together with a weak constitution.

No nation have as poor teeth and foul breath as the American. It is a national disgrace. To wipe it away, and correct the evils resulting individually, we must make use of the means. Let childhood and youth be deprived of sweet things, and from infancy exposed to cold water and a pure air. Never suffer them to eat things either very hot or cold. Regard mercury, and almost all minerals, as noxious poisons, and make use of simples for medicine. — Never suffer them to use metallic tooth-picks. Inure them to habits of active and persevering industry, neatness, and temperance; and the evil, in a few years, will be no more. A nation with rotten teeth and foul breath! A lovely female with an old woman's mouth and breath! A noble looking young man with an old man's teeth and jaws! How disgusting! how vilely offensive!

MISTAKING MEDICINE.—The Halifax (N. S.) Post, of the 5th ult., contains the particulars of the accidental death in that place of a young lady named Anderson, 20 years of age, from taking corrosive sublimate in mistake for a mixture of Epsom salts.

The following communication from the *Columbia Republican*, published at Hudson, N. Y., shows the beauty of the Homeœpathic medicines. How admirably calculated to fill the body with disease and death. Poison, poison, seems to be the very *bread and butter* of the learned quacks. Read and make your own comments.

Mr. Editor:—The following are some of the most prominent articles used by the Homeœpathic and Regular physicians in their practice, together with a regular description of their medical properties, taken from Hooper's Medical Dictionary, one of the standard medical works of the day.

Belladonna or Deadly Night Shade.—This plant has been long known as a strong poison, of the narcotic kind; and the berries have furnished many instances of their fatal effects, particularly upon children that have been tempted to eat them.

Digitalis or Foxglove.—Of all the narcotics, Digitalis is that which diminishes most powerfully the action of the system; and it does so without occasioning any previous excitement. Even in the most moderate dose it diminishes the force and frequency of the pulse, and in larger doses reduces it to a great extent, as from 70 beats to 40 or 35 in a minute, occasioning at the same time vertigo, indistinct vision, violent and durable sickness, with vomiting; in still larger quantity it induces convulsions, coldness of the body, and insensibility—symptoms which have sometimes terminated fatally.

Stramonium or Thorn Apple.—This plant has been long known as a powerful narcotic poison; instances of the deleterious effects of the plant are numerous, more particularly of the seeds.

Cicuta or Garden Hemlock.—It is generally believed to be a very active poison. In a very moderate dose it is apt to occasion sickness and vertigo; in a larger quantity it produces anxiety, cardialgia, vomiting, convulsions, coma and death.

Opium or Poppy—acts directly upon the nervous power, diminishing the sensibility, irritability and mobility of the nervous system. The requisite dose of Opium varies in different persons, and in different states of the same persons; a quarter of a grain will in one adult produce the effects which ten times the quantity will not do in another; and a dose that might prove fatal in cholera or colic would not be perceptible in many cases of letanus or mania. The lowest fatal dose to those unaccustomed to it seems to be about four grains; but a dangerous dose is so apt to produce vomiting, that it has seldom time to occasion death. When given in too small a dose it often produces disturbed sleep, and other disagreeable consequences; and in some cases it seems impossible to agree in any dose or form.

Aconite Wolfsbane or Monkshood.—Every part of the plant is strongly poisonous, but the root is unquestionably the most powerful, and when first chewed imparts a slight sensation of acrimony, but afterwards an insensibility or stupor at the apex of the tongue, and a pungent heat of the lips, gums, palate and fauces are perceived, followed with a general tremor and sensation of chillness; the juice applied to a wound seemed to affect the whole nervous system—even by keeping it long in

the hand or on the bosom, we are told unpleasant symptoms have been produced. The fatal symptoms brought on by this poison are convulsions, giddiness, insanity, violent purgings, both upwards and downwards, faintings, cold sweats, and death itself.

Mercury or Quicksilver.—There is scarcely a disease against which some of its preparations are not exhibited. Mercury is carried into the constitution in the same way as other substances, either by being absorbed from the surface of the body, or that of the alimentary canal. Mercury often produces pains like those of rheumatism, and nodes of scrofulous nature. Mercury occasionally attacks the bowels, and causes violent purging even of blood; this effect is remedied by intermitting the use of the medicine, and exhibiting opium. At other times it is suddenly determined to the mouth, and produces inflammation, ulceration, and excessive flow of saliva. Occasionally mercury acts on the system as a poison, quite unconnected with its agency as a remedy, and neither proportionate to the inflammation of the mouth nor actual quantity of the mineral absorbed.

Arsenic or Ratsbane, is a metal scattered in great abundance over the mineral kingdom; it is found in black heavy masses of little brilliancy, called native arsenic. Arsenic exists likewise alloyed with cobalt, antimony, tin, copper, lead, and various other metals. Arsenic and its various preparations are the most active of all poisons; a nausea sickness and reaching commonly ensue in half an hour after taking it, followed by violent vomitings, hiccups, and pains in the stomach and bowels, convulsions, and palsies of the limbs, presently succeed with intense heats, cold sweats, palpitations of the heart, extreme anxiety, prostration of strength, thirst and dryness of the mouth and throat, loss of reason, and at last death. If the quantity taken has been considerable, the stomach and intestines are often found upon dissection corroded or perforated, and the blood is fluid, though in general the patient expires before the action of the poison has proceeded to such a length. After death the body runs into sudden putrefaction. When the quantity taken does not prove fatal it occasions tremors, palsies, or lingering hectic, and in the end death.

Nux Vomica, is reckoned amongst the most powerful poisons of the narcotic kind, especially to brute animals, nor are instances wanting of its deleterious effects upon the human species; it proves fatal to dogs in a very short time, as appears by various authorities. Hillefield and others found that it also poisoned hares, foxes, wolves, cats, rabbits, and even some birds, as crows and ducks; and Laurelio relates that a horse died in four hours after taking a drachm of the seed in a half-roasted state. The effects of this baneful drug upon different animals, and even upon those of the same species, appear to be rather uncertain, and not always in proportion to the quantity of the poison given: with some animals it produces its effects almost instantaneously, with others not till after several hours, when laborious respiration, followed by torpor, tremblings, coma and convulsions, usually precede the fatal spasms or tetanus, with which this drug commonly extinguishes life. From four cases related of its mortal effects upon human

subjects, we find the symptoms corresponded nearly with those which we have here mentioned of brutes; and these as well as the dissections of dogs killed by this poison, not shewing any injury done to the stomach or intestines, proves that the *Nux Vomica* acts immediately upon the nervous system, and destroys life by the virulence of its narcotic influence.

The quantity of the seed necessary to produce this effect upon a strong dog, as appears by experiments, need not be more than a scruple; a rabbit was killed by five and a cat by four grains; and of the four persons to whom we have alluded, and who unfortunately perished by this deleterious drug, one was a girl ten years of age, to whom 15 grains were exhibited at twice for the cure of an ague.

Now, my friends, if you wish to take these poisons, (I don't call them medicines,) you are welcome to do so; but for myself I am determined not to take such stuff in large or small doses, so long as there are barks, roots and herbs, that are perfectly harmless, sufficient to cure all diseases that can be cured with medicines.

A. GARDNER.

Hudson, August, 1841.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

Log Hall, Buckingham, Va., Sept. 14, 1841.

To Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Dear Sir:—Since my last letter to you, informing you of the quantity of spurious stuff sold among us as “genuine Thomsonian medicines,” in a little village in Albemarle county, Va. I have ascertained something more definite. I have lately learned that a mineral physician of that town, and a wholesale and retail druggist, is, and has been a long time, in the practice of making and vending certain preparations which he calls “genuine Thomsonian medicines.” By some means, he has procured directions for making the whole six numbers; but whether he strictly follows the directions, is what the community do not know certainly. If he prepared the cayenne and composition which I inspected at Col. John M. Harris's, (mentioned in my last,) I unhesitatingly pronounce that he does not, or did not, *in that case*, follow the directions laid down in the “New Guide to Health.” I also have seen some No. 6, said to have been prepared in S——, (same place,) and I am certain that it was spurious. It was made of the most indifferent kind of whiskey, with scarcely any myrrh, and colored with, *I firmly believe*, POKE BERRIES!!

This is certainly the meanest kind of meanness.

Even if this man prepared his stuff according to your directory, it would still be a fraud of the deepest dye. Many articles, they made and sold, are not only rendered *worthless*, by mixing *innocuous* ingredients with them, but are absolutely *dangerous* from the amount of known poisons purposely incorporated in them!!! And there is more of this latter kind than of the former; and the intention with which it is made and sold is *doubly* damnable: first, because it is making money under the authority of your name, without your consent, and, indeed, in spite of your remonstrance, and rendering the purchaser no benefit; and secondly, because human life is thus knowingly sacrificed, that a rival system may be put down. Money made, a rival demolished, and the people poisoned, all by one means; and the means as much to be condemned as either of its results!!! Is there no remedy for this evil?

I think there is. If you knew where this nefarious practice was carried on, and would appoint an agent there, it would be to *his* interest, as well as *yours*, to ferret it out and stop it by the process of the law. But, from all I can learn, you have not an agent in the whole state of Virginia!! I venture to say that \$3,000 of spurious medicines are annually sold in this state.

This Dr. B. F. B., now selling his preparations under *your* name, in S——, is quite a responsible man. The evidence to sustain the charge—of his preparing and selling your compound—I think can be easily adduced.

When I first heard of his practice, I immediately sent two or three of your cautioning handbills and had them put up at public places in that village. It was then said that the medicines were purchased direct from you, or from one of your known agents; and the people don't know any better—the sale went on. Do devise some means to put a check to this murdering and rascality, which now pervades the whole state of Virginia.

Suppose you gave a permit, to prepare and sell medicines, *signed by yourself with a pen*, to all your agents, and authorize them to give a similar permit to all who buy of them, to sell again. Then caution the people not to purchase of any vender who does not exhibit to them one of these permits. Unless some means are adopted to stop the sale of this spurious stuff, now sold as Thomsonian medicines, the whole system and practice will come to nothing.

Most cheerfully would I, if empowered, use every exertion available, to detect, and have punished, every such villainous act; and do trust that,

for the sake of the great cause, you will fall upon some plan that may prove effectual to this end.

Your friend, most affectionately,

A. S. THOMAS.

NOTE.—Our friend should remember, that Dr. Thomson is far advanced in life; and to take the law, in all cases where his name is used to impose upon the public, would require the vigor and activity he possessed twenty years ago. He spares no pains to give the people correct information on the subject, and if they won't be warned in that way, must suffer the consequence.—[ED.]

From the Manual Labor Expositor. MEDICAL INNOVATION.

The new school of American medicine, invented by Samuel Thomson, appears to be making rapid progress among the mass of the people—thus threatening to become a very serious innovation to the whole body of M. Ds. We have always been a friend to the free and unfettered progress of science; holding it as an axiom, that no *past age* could bind us down to its ignorance in virtue of an empty diploma. The mind must advance—research, investigation, and experiment, are as unavoidable to human sagacity as eating and drinking to the animal economy. It is utterly impossible to erect the barrier of *systems*, against the progressive march of mind to perfectibility. The experiment has always been tried, and it has always failed. One age after another has been successively defeated in this attempt to limit the bounds of knowledge by the standard of a mercenary interest.—Against the old diploma school of medicine, we have to urge in proof, the discrepancy of system and practice between its professors, and the little improvement which is permitted to be made in it; besides the immense *destruction of life* consequent upon the administration of *calomel*, and the use of the *lancet*.—A diploma, in fact, means nothing more than a license to murder by *calomel* and bleeding! Such a practice, on the very face of it, is nothing but sheer quackery; for it matters not what your malady may be, you must take *calomel* and lose *blood*. One experiment of the deadly effects of poison, ought to be enough to arrest such a course of cold-blooded murder; and when it is demonstrated that the blood is a vital fluid, that its loss by the lancet never can restore it to purity, but must, by reducing the vigor of the system, add to the energy of the disease—one would suppose that the whole system would be instantly abandoned, as well in regard to humanity, as out of respect to public opinion and common decency. The case of Thomas McKeever, recorded in the Poughkeep-

sie "Thomsonian" a boy nine years of age, poisoned by calomel and bled to death by the regular faculty, is one of those events which cannot fail to sink deep in the public mind, and excite a sympathy calculated to beget a powerful change of sentiment in relation to the fatal errors of the old practice.

In making these observations, we are acting solely from motives of humanity, and have no interest in either of the systems that are antagonistic, in this question. We speak as men, not as partisans. We know that the *antiquity* of the regular system gives it no claim to superiority and although we incline to favor all American systems in preference to foreign or antiquated ones—yet, in the matter of health and disease, life and death, we never could sustain a side which had not *truth* and the *good of mankind* in its favor,—Experience is the grand test of truth, and experience has written a sad commentary on the consequence of the regular practice, and brought a splendid attestation of merit to the American system of Samuel Thomson.

Why will not men do their own thinking, why not act upon the standard of their own reason, why not treat their fellow creatures with justice, humanity, tenderness? instead of coining gold out of their blood, and growing rich by infecting them with poison, which, when it does not kill, leaves a curse worse than ten thousand deaths! Oh! *the curse of calomel*.

BEST MANNER OF SUPPORTING A NEWSPAPER.—The following remarks of a contemporary on the best manner of supporting a good newspaper are true to the letter. We commend them to the consideration of Mr. Public.

"Much depends upon the supporters of a newspaper whether it is conducted with spirit and interest—if they are niggardly or negligent in their payments, the pride and ambition of the editor is broken down, he works at a thankless and unprofitable task—he becomes discouraged and careless—his paper loses its pith and interest, and dies.—But on the contrary, if his subscribers are of the right sort—if they are punctual, liberal hearted fellows—always in ADVANCE on the subscription list—taking an interest in increasing the number of his subscribers—now and then speaking a good word for his paper—cheering him on his course by smiles of approbation; with such subscribers as these he must be a dolt indeed who could not get up an interesting sheet—with such patrons as these I would forswear comfort, ease, leisure—every thing that could possibly step between me and the gratification of every laudable desire on their part—I would know no other pleasure but their satisfaction. How much then can the supporters of a newspaper do to make it interesting and respectable—indeed without concurring efforts on their part the publisher of a paper will not, cannot, bestow the attention which is necessary to make it what it should be."

Dr. Samuel Thomson

RESPECTFULLY gives notice to the Thomsonian community in particular, and to the public generally, that the only place in Boston where medicine can be had, of his compounding and preparing, are at his **GENERAL INFIRMARY, No. 40 SALEM STREET, near Cross st.**

Dr. T. would also give notice that there are a number of people selling medicines which they call Thomsonian, which they say are as good and even better than those made and prepared by himself. Now if their medicines are really what they would have people believe, [*better than those which* have always been found to cure every case in which they have been used, where there was life enough left to build upon] why do they use his name by which to sell their *better* medicines? Why not affix their own names to their compounds, and acquire for themselves a fame and a reputation. Dr. Thomson would particularly warn the public against DANIEL L. HALE, and JAMES OSGOOD, in Blackstone street, Boston, who call themselves Thomsonians, but with whom he has no connection. The medicines said to have been sold at their stores, he pronounces to be the most spurious he ever saw. An infirmery at the corner of Portland and Hanover sts., is kept by J. W. Chapman, whom he dismissed for his unfaithfulness. Beware of wolves in sheeps' clothing, if you regard your health. A word to the wise, &c.

The number of counterfeiters sent out from Blackstone street, is large, and they are locating themselves in various parts of the country. Of this class is a man by the name of Whitney, and another by the name of Simon Batchelor,—not exactly a Simon Pure,—in Nashua, N. H., both of the P. D. Badger stamp. This Whitney has a large sign bearing on it this inscription—"MEDICINE PREPARED BY THE GREAT FOUNDER OF THE THOMSONIAN SYSTEM"—although he has had no medicine of me for a long time. If these swindlers would stand before the public upon their own merits, and not palm off their "stuffs" as medicines prepared by me, I should not notice their transactions, but leave the community to seek its own means of protection against them. As it is, I feel it a duty to strip off their disguises, and show them to the public in their true light.

The value and efficacy of my medicines depend much upon the vegetables being collected at a proper time, and upon the manner of preparing them. No vegetable can be safely used as a medicine after it has begun to decay, or has been heated by laying in large piles. People who would have pure medicines, should either collect and prepare them themselves, or purchase only of those who are known to deal honestly.

N. B. Beware of Counterfeits, if you regard life and health, as many dangerous and poisonous vegetables are sold, bearing the names of my compounds and the word "Thomsonian" to effect their sale. There are also many books and periodicals in circulation, imitating mine, and calculated to deceive the public.

Volumes of the Manual.

THE previous volumes of the MANUAL can be had cheap, neatly bound, at No. 40 Salem street, Boston. oct1

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *eighth volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the exertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

CONDITIONS.—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, *payable in advance*. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

Subscribers, clubbing together, and forwarding TEN DOLLARS, *free of postage*, will receive EIGHT COPIES for one year. Clubs remitting FIVE DOLLARS, will receive THREE COPIES.

As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

****** All letters intended for the Manual, must be *post paid*, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass. Boston, Mass., Sept. 1, 1841."

Baltimore Establishment.

GODFREY MEYER & CO., near Pratt street Bridge, Baltimore, respectfully inform the public that they keep constantly on hand, wholesale and retail, all the Crude Articles and Compounds made use of by Dr. Samuel Thomson.

Among his articles of Medicine, are pure African Cayenne, composition powders, conserve of hollyhock, bayberry, coarse and fine—cancer plaster, golden seal, ginger, head-ache snuff, healing salve, lobelia, gum myrrh, nerve powder, poplar bark, raspberry leaves, spiced bitters, strengthening plaster, slippery elm bark, unicorn root, woman's friend, volatile salts, cough syrup, dysentary syrup, essences, eye-water, nerve ointment, pepper sauce, rheumatic drops, tincture of lobelia, third preparation, vegetable jelly, wine bitters.

Having built an eight horse power, Steam Mill, expressly for grinding the Thomsonian medicines, they are enabled to sell on the most favorable terms, and warrant their medicines to be genuine and pure, and clear of any deleterious or poisonous qualities.

The postage must be paid on letters for medical advice, by the person who mails them, in order to receive any attention at this establishment.

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL,

“Good sense keeps always in close alliance with nature.” — SENECA.

VOLUME VII.]

BOSTON, NOVEMBER 1, 1841.

[NUMBER 24.]

Disorder comes by losing inward heat,
That motion stops which renders health complete;
The system clogs, the juices petrify,
For want of motion only, people die.

That medicine which will the motion give,
Is near at hand, and by it we relieve;
Let no one suffer then, while nature lasts,
But application make, before 'tis past.

Let no tradition lead your mind astray,
Nor fashion keep you from the better way;
The God of nature has our wants supplied,
Would we submit, and in ourselves confide;
Obtain that information which we need,
Dismiss all learned quacks with care and speed.

From the Thomsonian Messenger.

FACTS BETTER THAN FICTIONS.

MR. EDITOR:—Sir,—If the circumstances to be related below shall interest the readers of the Messenger as much as they have me, I shall be amply paid for committing them to paper. While on a visit in the country a few weeks since, I had occasion to call on a friend of mine in Barre, Mass., where I found a man by the name of Nichols, who had been sick with what the doctor called a fever, for about a week. He was in bed, and had watchers. I found him taking the doctor's prescriptions, which consisted of ether, and what I took to be the common fever powder. In conversation with him, he told me that the doctor had told him, “that he had a slow fever—that he had a number of patients in the same situation—and that if he got about in three or four weeks he would do well.” Such were the comforting words of the physician. I asked Mr. Nichols if he felt satisfied with the mode of treatment, or these words of consolation? He replied that he did not, but that he knew of no way to avoid it. And after some further conversation he asked me what I should do, if I were in his situation. I, being a Thomsonian, and ever willing the world should know it, frankly told him that I would take no more of the medicine which the doctor had left, but that I would drink freely of the “composition tea” through the night, and in the morning send for a Thomsonian physician—take a course of medicine, and then get up and go to work. He asked me if I thought it would have that effect? I told him, from his appearance, I had no doubt of it.

He finally concluded to take my advice. I accordingly made him some “composition tea,” which his watchers gave him through the night. The next morning he sent for Dr. Osmore, a Thomsonian physician of Templeton, a distance of twelve miles. At this period I left, after saying to Mr. Nichols, as I bade him “good morning,” “if the Thomsonian doctor don't kill you! I wish you to write me.” To which he consented, and I departed for home. A few days since, on my return from New York, I found on my table the following line from Mr. Nichols, dated Barre, Sept. 14, 1841, which speaks volumes for the Thomsonian medicine in case of a fever:

MR. WILSON: Sir,—Agreeably to your request I send you a few lines to inform you of my health, which is now very good. Dr. Osmore arrived here about 12 o'clock the day you left. I was steamed, and went through a regular course of medicine, and at 7 o'clock ate a hearty supper. The next day I was able to be about the house; and in four days was able to go about my business.

Yours, with much respect,

B. S. NICHOLS.

So much for Thomsonism in one case; and we should be disposed to let it pass without further comment, did we not anticipate an objection. The opposer will say: “The man had no fever, and would have got well in a day or two without any doctor.” To this I reply: “He had already been sick a week, and, most of the time, under *scientific* treatment. And further, if this objection be true, the doctor had during this time, been practising real quackery on him. For he had told him ‘that he had a slow fever—that he had a dozen or more similar cases—and that if he got about in three or four weeks he would do well.’ And more than this, he was giving him medicine for a fever.” Now, either the man had a fever, and the Thomsonian did that for him in four days, which the family physician had told him it would take three or four weeks to accomplish, or the doctor told him a lie, and was practising deception upon him for filthy lucre's sake. There is but one other view that can be taken of this case; and that is, that the learned and scientific doctor misjudged in the case, and though, from appearances, he was disposed to think the man

had a fever, yet it was not so, and he would have got about in a few days, as above. But is this horn of the dilemma preferable to either of the others? It does not appear so to me. The doctor had seen him for a week, more or less; and if he could not judge in that time whether the man had a fever or not, I should judge him unfit to tamper with human life. But I think the matter stands thus: Mr. Nichols had what the doctors call a slow fever; or, in other words, the stomach was foul and coated, and there was, in consequence, a want of regular action in the system. That the doctor knew that in the course of three or four weeks, nature would work itself clear, and a healthy action might be restored to the system, when the individual would gradually recover, and he would get the pay, and have the name of curing the patient. And, that under this state of things, the Thomsonian doctor was called, who administered nature's medicine, which had its natural, healthy action, and the patient got well; just as they will, under similar treatment in ninety-nine cases in a hundred. Now then, as the vegetable medicine in this case performed that in four days, or, we might say, in one, for the cure was virtually performed in one, which, it was said, it would take four weeks to perform under scientific treatment, why is it that people will be so blinded to their own interest—to their own happiness—and to their own well being, that they will not try the medicine before they condemn it? The answer is ready: Mankind have been kept under the influence of the regular physicians, who have been, and are, using every exertion in their power to sustain a sinking system. But the TRUTH is against them, and it will prevail. Yes, the doctrine of SAMUEL THOMSON must triumph—it must come off conqueror, and more than conqueror, through the power of its might. And many have yet to learn its power, and its healthy influence, and thus be led to bless the name of THOMSON, with other great benefactors of our race. J. V. W.
Norwich, Sept. 14, 1841.

From the Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

OUR CAUSE.

Our cause is rapidly progressing in the north—Thomsonism is beginning to be distinguished from all other isms. The worst ism that we have met with appears to be that ism which Dr. Thomson calls "Mongrelism." This ism appears first, and we might say last, in the dress of a Thomsonian, and effects Thomsonism as the great standard of medical philosophy. Not only is Dr. Thomson's name paraded, but the wonderful cures his system has performed is

brought forth, and to be brief, there is nothing like Thomsonism. After the lapse of one or more years, the individual becomes elevated to the dignity of "Doctor!" It is doctor this and doctor that, and under this infatuated influence, and transmogrified situation, the individual begins to think himself a great man—a man of influence—and in order to display something of his own, he forgets the cause of his elevation, and becomes, or affects to be "scientific." And although he may have left a useful occupation for that of a "doctor," he affects the opinion that no man who is not reared expressly for the healing art can become a doctor of medicine! For our part we are satisfied that an intelligent farmer or mechanic may qualify themselves for practitioners; indeed, we know it to be the case, and hundreds of facts have been laid before our readers and the public, which puts this subject to rest. But we have never yet seen the least evidence adduced that a being deficient in mental capacity was ever made efficient by the grant of a diploma more than he would have been without one.

The greatest difficulty that presents itself in the successful march of Thomsonism, is that of ignorant and unprincipled men taking the system up, with no other view than that of self-aggrandisement. Such being a true state of the case, we are not only surrounded by foes, but we are compelled to combat with those who pretend to be our friends. Of the latter class we say: Give us ten thousand open enemies in preference to one secret one. The Thomsonians of the north are beginning to know that all who figure as Thomsonians are not to be depended upon, and the individuals themselves, who have endeavored to play off deception and quackery, see that they are caught in the snare that they set for others, and instead of profiting, as they expected, they are obliged to retreat, not as men who have acted well their part, but on the contrary, despised and chagrined. We would as soon support regular quackery as Thomsonian, or any other, but if we should ever dream of giving our aid to quackery in any form whatever, we would prefer that which is the most money making—and we presume you all know the one we allude to—"the regular scientific."

In heading these remarks, "Our Cause," we intended to communicate to our friends abroad that the people of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware are determined to encourage no one as a practitioner of Dr. Thomson's system knowing him to pursue a mixed practice—such as Dr. Thomson styles Mongrels. By this course much good must result, as those who practice Thomsonism will be designated by the name from those who call themselves botanics.

The course properly pursued will restore a healthy condition, and we shall hear no more said about hair-breadth splitting, as it has been termed, but every one who prefers Thomsonian treatment can have it, and so can they who prefer botanic, without the mortification of being deceived or disappointed. No man should call himself a Thomsonian who uses articles that are deleterious.

From the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.

EFFECTS OF LEARNED QUACKERY.

In the month of March last an aged lady was so unfortunate as to break her thigh-bone about midway between the knee and hip-joint. A Dr. Frame was called to repair the injury. He made her fast to the floor, tied her hands, and then commenced pulling and hauling on the limb, with several to assist him, which produced much pain, in the midst of which the patient begged the Doctor to spare her life. He very feelingly told her not to scold, or she would catch no fish, and continued the hauling process for some time, when he said all was right, bandaged the limb, and left. The Doctor however visited the patient every few days, when she would have to undergo another hauling and bandaging: the Doctor always asserting that all was right. This course of treatment was pursued for nearly three months, when another M. D., Dr. Clyne, visited the patient, and on examination, said the bone had never been set. A few days after, Dr. F. again visited the patient. The husband told him what Dr. C. had said. Dr. F. replied that the bone had been set, and was then so firmly united, that she could not kick it apart. [This statement I received from the patient and her husband.] This asseveration, however, did not exactly suit the husband, and he then sent for Dr. Trowbridge, a celebrated surgeon of this village, who agreed in opinion with Dr. C., and told the patient that she must either remain as she was, or submit to an operation which would be in some degree painful. She preferred the latter, and came to the county house about a mile from this place, when the operation was performed as follows: An incision was made to the bone sufficiently large to admit the ends of the bone to be pressed outward so that they could be sawed off, which it was necessary to do in consequence of their being covered with cartilage. It is but justice to Dr. T. to say that the operation was skilfully performed, and its effects are likely to be beneficial, as the bone is now firmly united and the patient bids fair to recover.

The above is but one more evidence of the misery daily inflicted upon our race by scien-

tific pretenders. O that the day may soon arrive when truth, reason, and philosophy, will triumph over error, false theories, and learned ignorance.

Fraternally yours,

JOHN HILL.

Watertown, Sept. 17, 1841.

From the Youth's Cabinet.

TOOTH-ACHE.

Tooth-ache, properly so called, arises from the swollen condition of the nerve which occupies the centre of the tooth, as I have shown in my plates of split teeth. The swelling of the nerve is caused by exposure to the atmosphere. When the carious affection, or decay of the tooth, reaches the nerve, it is exposed, and becomes inflamed and swollen, and the teeth being a hard, dense body, and not pliant or elastic, like those parts in our bodies which surround other nerves, does not expand, and the nerve, although much larger, is still confined to its natural cavity, causing that violent, beating, throbbing, and jumping sensation, which is often so great as to deprive those thus afflicted, of the proper exercise of their reason. As the nerve communicates with the brain, it transmits its inflammation to that delicate organ, and thus affects the senses. If you have ever had a tight ring on a swollen finger, you will easily understand this subject. You know the ring will not accommodate its circumference to the size of the finger, which becomes more inflamed from being confined by the ring. But as soon as the ring is taken off, the pain and irritability from this source ceases. It is just so with the tooth. Should the tooth be split, the nerve would be freed from confinement and cease to be any longer a source of pain.

There is another cause of pain in the teeth, but which is not properly tooth-ache. It is an affection of the vascular membrane which surrounds the tooth. Vascular is derived from the Latin word *vasculum*, a vessel. It means, full of vessels, or pertaining to vessels. The sockets which contain the roots, are lined with little blood-vessels which supply the tooth with vitality. They become diseased, from the system being stimulated by excessive eating, thus filling these vessels to such a degree, as to cause inflammation and swelling of the membrane, which, pressing between the socket and tooth, throws the tooth up, and produces the feeling, when closing the jaws, that the tooth is much longer than formerly. Gum-boils and ulcers at the roots, are an extension of this diseased state of the membrane. You have, no doubt, heard of instances, where the teeth drop out perfectly sound. This proceeds from the cause I have just described, viz., inflammation of the mem-

brane and gums. When these parts are in a healthy state, the teeth cannot fall out. Actual experience proves that this painful state of the teeth is caused by eating too much; and the very term boil seems to refer to the fever or heat from excess of food; as the word signifies excitement or agitation, caused by the action of heat.

And now, as I have described the cause of pain, I shall go a little farther and define the word pain. It means penalty; and, as a penalty or suffering, cannot be righteously inflicted without a violation of law, your own reason must decide we have some responsibility in these matters. I mean, that if we know the causes which lead to these painful results, we are guilty if we neglect to profit by this information, and must bear the censure as well as the penalty attached to our transgressions. God has declared he does not grieve or afflict willingly, but our transgressions are visited upon us and not his wrath. He has established it as a law, throughout his universal dominions, that all sins, whether they relate chiefly to the body or the mind, shall have their just recompense of reward. If your father should give you a watch, you would think you ought to take good care of it. God has given you a body, which is a much more wonderful structure. Dare you trifle with it?

JOHN BURDELL,

69 Chambers street.

New York, 1840.

THE KILLING ART.

The world has long been in Egyptian darkness respecting medical science. Those who practice medicine (so called) by the influence of diplomatic favors, honors or distinctions, are not only legalized to go out into the world and practice on the sick what might be considered medicine, but they are endowed with the right to administer opium, calomel, croton oil, antimony, tartar emetic, corrosive sublimate, arsenic, and a variety of other deadly poisons, under the spacious cloak of practitioners of the healing art, and should any of the above articles of deathly notoriety be given by an individual, without the sanction of "learning," his life must pay the forfeit on conviction of the fact. The law we are told is to protect the weak—if this be a fact—why not protect those who are so weak in point of mental capacity, that they cannot see that their life is put in jeopardy when they resort for aid from poisoners and depleters when they are not capacitated to cure their own maladies. What a charm a name has—particularly if the name is derived from Latin, Greek or Hebrew, and sanctioned by one or more of the colleges of medical "science." The greatest

booby can by the process of professors, holding chairs of "professorship," in "medical" colleges administer a dose of arsenic with as much sang froid as a matter of little or no importance, and should the patient recover from its effects, he prides himself a man of skill, and the ignorant laud him for his success. Should the patient die, (which is too often the case) it is only a business transaction! and is buried with all due solemnity, as having died with a disease of a wondrous type and name, and here the farce ends. This is what we call the "killing art." Bleeding and poisoning ignorant people to death under the name of a "regular doctor of medicine!"—[Philadelphia Thomsonian Sentinel.

From the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian.

SPIN-LOGY.

In these days, when boarding-schools for young ladies are devoted to the fashionable ologies of the day, such as conchology, ornithology, ichthyology, zoology, and such like, we propose an additional science, as a finishing touch to young ladies' education, viz. *Spin-ology*. Our grandmothers of olden time, who made good wives for patriotic men that achieved our independence, knew how to spin. They were, too, expert at weave-ology; and, as to cook-ology, none of the learned ancients could go ahead of them. As a consequence of all this, they enjoyed good health, and such things as dyspepsia and consumption were seldom known. But in modern times, those sciences, so honorable to the matrons of the revolution, have gone out of date. A lamentable degeneracy, both physical and moral, has followed. Then the country had *women*, now we have none. Females have all turned *ladies*.

If our fashionable schools cannot be induced to establish departments in spinology, weave-ology, and the like, we would suggest that some worthy matrons, if a number qualified for the business can be found, should go into our cities and towns and set up spinning schools to teach young ladies—not how to spin street yarn, this art they have generally achieved already; but good substantial wool and linen, in a work-womanlike manner. This should be preparatory to a High School for teaching the healthy and ingenious art of Weaving; and when they have become proficient at both, a good knowledge of cook-ology should entitle them to a regular diploma, with the honorary degree of F. W.—Fit for Wives.

Did you ever know a thorough going Thomsonian in case of sickness apply to a poison-dealing Doctor?

THOMSONIAN MANUAL.



Purgatives should not be used in any case whatever. They are at variance with every principle of my system, as will be seen by reference to the New Guide. They irritate the bowels and destroy the equilibrium of the circulation, which we should always endeavor to avoid. The sudden deaths of which we often hear as occurring among the Thomsonians, are no doubt principally owing to the administration of cathartics. * * * Since my Agents have discarded the use of butternut and bitterroot, they are much more successful in their practice.

— SAMUEL THOMSON.

BOSTON, NOVEMBER 1, 1841.

✍ THIS NUMBER

Brings the present volume of the Manual to a close. Those of its subscribers who do not wish it continued to them for another year will please give notice to that effect, immediately to the proprietor, post paid, or by their postmaster, free. All who do not thus stop their paper, will be considered subscribers for the Eighth Volume. All who are indebted for any of the previous Volumes are requested to make immediate payment.

CLOSE OF VOLUME SEVEN.

Here we are again, at the end of a twelvemonth's voyage. Our little bark, we believe, has received no damage, other than the ordinary "wear and tear" of a like cruise: and if our "cargo" but proves of "good quality" and "free from damage," giving satisfaction to the consumers thereof, we shall consider that we have "made a good voyage." When the "trade" in which we are engaged was first entered into, and the "goods" with which we freight were considered "contraband," one might plough the waters of Thomsonism for days, weeks, and even months, without meeting with a "friendly sail;" but now, since public opinion has made the trade lawful, how happy the change! It has been cheering indeed to us, during this our "second voyage," as we have sailed our "watch on deck," to "speak" so often some "snug little craft," with her gentlemanly commander, deeply laden with her valuable cargo, and sailing under the same "colors" as ourself. It was with a good deal of reluctance that we took charge of the little bark "Manual," feeling satisfied that she required a commander of more experience and skill: in fact, we should never have ventured upon the Thomsonian "Sea" in the capacity we have, had not the venerable discoverer and "pilot" of those waters consented to sail with

us; so that in cases of emergency he would be ready to advise, and thus avoid the danger of our deviating far from the "right course." And now that the voyage is ended, we would merely remind those who may be owing for "freight," that it is necessary they should meet their bills immediately, in order to enable the "owner" to "pay off the crew," "make necessary repairs," and proceed to a new "outfit" for the forthcoming "voyage."

INGRATITUDE.

We have often been surprised at the ingratitude which many, who have been restored from helpless, hopeless sickness, to robust health, have exhibited towards the founder of the Thomsonian system; but never have we been more aware of the depravity of mankind, than since the appearance of our last, on hearing from a lady, who has been an active nurse in a neighboring city, of the ungratefulness of many of those whom she had restored to health by Dr. Thomson's medicines. One or two cases we will relate, and if those who are guilty, or any one, to whom they will apply, should see them, we hope they will resolve to make amends, and in future do as they would be done by.

A man and his wife, neighbors of the Thomsonian nurse, had been under a regular's care, until their friends had given them over, and the regulars themselves considered the cases hopeless: in one instance, the husband was pronounced to be past cure, and not expected to live until twelve o'clock at night—the attending and consulting physicians both agreeing that if he recovered, he would be blind. The nurse was sent for, and by constant, faithful attention, raised the sick man. After his face had been rendered hideous to look at, by the application of *lunar caustic*, to prevent the spread of erysipelas, Thomsonian medicines restored him in a few days, and sent him about his work again.

The wife was taken with pain and swelling of the feet and legs; a regular was sent for, and although at that time she was able to be about house, yet, by the medical prescriptions of the M. D., in one week she was thought past cure. The Thomsonian was again sent for, and by the use of Samuel Thomson's medicines for a few days, she was again on her feet and doing well. The nurse received the abuse of the M. D., for curing cases that he could not, and but little thanks from those whom she had restored; for even after being cured themselves—husband and wife—when their children are a little unwell, instead of using the simple medicines which they *acknowledge* to have cured them, they send again for the regular. Surely, some are wilfully blind.

A lady from the State of New York applied to this same nurse for assistance, when laboring under severe indisposition. She had paid much money to the M. Ds., till at last she was told that her only chance was in travelling. On her voyage, a person recommended to her the Thomsonian nurse spoken of. She had taken so much calomel that it caused her to have frequent spasms, and threw her into such contortions that she had dislocated her shoulder, elbow and wrist, on one side. In this condition the Thomsonian nurse found her; and with constant care and attention, having her at her house to wait on, in a few weeks she effected a complete cure—had the dislocated joints set in place, and sent her away a well woman, but strange to tell, the husband of the restored invalid has never yet made the nurse,—a lone woman,—any compensation for her trouble, or for her medicine! He must value his wife highly to let one go unrequited who has restored a wife from extreme debility and suffering, to health and usefulness.

These are some of the cases related to us by a lady of much skill in the use of the Thomsonian medicines, where she has met with ingratitude, for the good she has done to her fellow creatures. But she is not alone; for we believe that those who have been long in the administration of medicines can all of them say, that they meet with such treatment, often from those who have been to them the greatest cause of trial and fatigue.

But if *Samuel Thomson* met with so much abuse, in his mission of usefulness, how can those who are his followers, expect to escape a like fate.

The following recommendations of Doctor THOMSON'S NEW BOOK, we find in the Poughkeepsie Thomsonian; coming from men who are experienced Thomsonians, they must have great weight with community in its favor:—

Albany, Oct. 12, 1841.

Doct. John Thomson: You ask my opinion of your new book, the Thomsonian Materia Medica. I can form no opinion as a medical man, and therefore give none.

But I think the work contains much common sense, an immense amount of matter in comparatively a small compass, clearly and forcibly expressed and well arranged.

The Anatomical plates, in the opinion of some very competent to judge, are of a superior description; and the colored ones of the Botanical department are alike creditable to the artist and the work.

The mechanical execution and the appearance are neat and attractive; and from what I know of its object and pretensions, I should deem it a very valuable *family book*.

Respectfully yours, STEPHEN R. SMITH.

Troy, Oct. 9, 1841.

Doct. Lapham:—I have lately become possessed of one of Dr. Thomson's new books, by the solicitation of my brother, who has had one of the old books for a number of years past, and who has also procured one of the new. We have been diligent in examining the work, also have shown it to many other persons, who have been into our counting-room, all of whom appear to be highly pleased with the book. Even the opponents to the system admit the work has been got up with ability, and that the Philosophical arguments and Anatomical and Botanical illustrations, will carry forcible conviction to the mind of every individual to that degree that a trial of the remedies will be resorted to in case of disease, and the practical success will confirm the superiority of the practice over that of all other systems of medicine, I have no doubt. In this way, what is there to hinder of convincing the world that Samuel Thomson's system of practice is the very best to alleviate the afflictions of the suffering sons of mankind in their transitory abode upon earth.

I am, sir, respectfully yours,

D. B. BRITTON.

Troy, 10th month, 9th, 1841.

Friend Lapham:—I have procured one of Doct. Thomson's new books, and my wife and self have given it a cursory examination: and we can say that it is the most complete work upon the subject of medicine that we have ever examined. The philosophical part appears to be concise, forcible and conclusive, and is such as will carry conviction to the mind of every rational man.

This work will do great honor to the Thomsonian cause, as it is replete with useful information and safe counsel, which I have never seen so full in any other medical work.

Doct. Thomson has much reason to be proud of "*this last best touch*," upon his immortal system of practice, as demonstrated in this book. I say to all mankind, come over and participate with us in the good things of this life, "*for why will ye die*" when the antidote is even at your door?

Every person who has examined this book, both friends and foes, unite in giving Doct. Thomson great credit for this production, as the medical compounds are of the most simple kinds of vegetables, and are within the grasp of every family.

We therefore say to all the sons and daughters of affliction, come over and participate with us in the blessings which are developed for your good in this valuable medical work.

Thy friend,

ALANSON BILLS.

Troy, Oct. 6, 1841.

Dr. Lapham:—I have been in possession of Dr. Thomson's new book for two weeks past, and I have given it a cursory examination, and think it a very valuable work—and really I do not see where it could be altered for the better. There have been many people in our office who have examined the work, and without exception it is pronounced the best book upon the subject of medicine in existence.

We have Dr. Mattson's book for sale, and our

prospects for the sale of his work are very dark while Dr. Thomson's remains on hand.

I would not have it understood that I would speak disrespectfully or against Mattson's book, for it is a good work. But the misfortune is, it is eclipsed by Thomson's to that degree that its excellence can only be observed by heavy magnifying power, and even then but darkly. It is not asked for of late. Those who would wish a "mountain of matter in a drop of words," should have one of the *Materia Medica*—Dr. Thomson's new book.

A. W. RUSSELL.

CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Manual.

THE ELECTRIC SYSTEM—STEAM AND LOBELIA.

BY J. S. OLCOTT.

DR. THOMSON,—Dear Sir—I would, through the Manual, address you once more, and for the same reason—the advancement of truth; and while doing it, I would bring your mind, and that of society in general, to bear upon the two articles Steam and Lobelia: the application of which is, through your discovery and excellent system, about to result in the highest good in combatting sickness, disease and death. I have, since my last, become still more fully persuaded of the fact, as I have regarded them in the light of my own lately discovered theory, the Electric System. I find the terms *vapor* and *vapor-bath* entire misnomers, and absolutely unworthy of that high elevation which the true and only legitimate term *steam*, is destined to attain. It is already in an itinerary, commercial, and military sense, highly honorable. The steamer, sounds better than the packet, and the man-of-war steamer, than the seventy-four, or even a ship of the line. It will soon become classical, and shine in solid and untarnishable glory. Adopt it, and it will become in a short time as honorable in a medicinal sense; and, as Fulton has the honor in first applying it to those objects which are about to change the aspect of human society in its attitude of peace and war, commerce and science, civil and political intercourse, so will you, in bringing it to bear upon the human system, and in effecting by it a great and glorious change in the practice of materia medica, by which millions on millions will be rescued from an untimely grave. Besides, the steam which enters into *your* practice is *not* vapor. The hot stone in cold water decomposes some portion of it and it becomes steam, semi-radiant electricity. In this, in its active, penetrating state, the patient is involved; and it is this which gives it its transcendent excel-

lency in opening the electric ducts, and in a few minutes preparing the way for the escape of the etherial fire which is consuming and deranging in points every part of the system. As such, it penetrates, under a sufficient degree of radiation to give it efficiency, the million of millions of ducts which it has formed in animalization, and opening them afresh, and with uncommon extension, it unites itself with that which escapes and gives it a sufficient momentum to open the expellants. The short conflict which it had waged with the grand current received through the lungs, almost instantly terminates, and the equilibrium is restored. Perspiration follows: and there is extra-corporated, under its intensity, a vast amount of materia which caused obstruction in every concentration and circulation of the system. Hence the fetor in case of one much diseased, and whose complaint is general in its character, as is the case in all neuralgic and febrile diseases, and more or less in those which are called local or topical; hence, also, the necessity of putting something over the mouth in case of those whose systems are filled with mercury, to prevent its deleterious effects on inhalation. We need not be surprised at the suddenness of the relief, the removal of so great an amount in so short a time, when we recollect that it is the same as the lightning itself, radiating at every pulsation of the heart through every concentration and duct, though infinitely small, in the body of the patient. Thus, while you inform us that there is "a unity in disease," and that "it consists in obstruction," and have, by experiment, talent and skill, perfected a system for its removal; the improvements of science discover the high efficiency, and in the case of steam the almost absolute certainty, if timely applied, of the means you have adopted.

This throws much light on the able communication of Dr. Fonerden, found in Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, of the present volume of the Manual, in regard to its effects in neuralgic and other diseases. It unfolds to him at once the material causality which produces those effects; that it is not by relaxing and strengthening the absorbents and expellants, but by opening them as its own proper channels. What are absorbents and expellants, nerves and muscles, without a real materia to act upon them, and having restored, to keep them in action? What is a fluid without something to move it and keep it in motion? Here is the causality. He has to advance but *one* step farther in science, and it is all plain. The millions of ducts are opened; perspiration, relief, rest, sleep, follow as necessary concomitants or consequences. His "inorganic

tractility" is no more. We speak of disease entered upon immediately before a general derangement of the system. After days and weeks have passed, and matter which should have been ex-corporated has become consolidated in the very joints and bones themselves; new channels becoming formed by millions of electric aneurisms and carosities, it is not to be expected that a single course should restore the patient. This view of the subject, while it discovers to us the nature of steam, its effect, and the importance of early application to the means of cure, assures us, as is found in experience, which is the best of instructors, that there is not only no danger in cold water applied to the patient, but that it is absolutely necessary, to complete the electric effect. Water is a most excellent conductor of radiant electricity, and cold water is far more perfect than hot. Applied suddenly and but a few moments to the skin, it removes at once the caloric which was deposited, and causes a rush from the whole interior system. The brain, the great ganglionic system, every particle of the patient, feels the rush. The friction of a clean towel which follows, immediately restores the equilibrium, and the consequences already specified follow. What more rational process in the light of this superior science? How far superior to the system of the mineralites, to leave the patient in all the impurities of disease, in an isolated position, with a suppressed perspiration and electric circulation; or, if excited, nine times out of ten, to react with dreadful consequences to the patient!

As your columns will require a continuance of the subject, suffer me here reserving for another number "Lobelia," and a more special application of the subject, to confirm, in one or two instances, the truth of the electric system, which so beautifully confirms the Thomsonian.

(To be continued.)

BOSTON THOMSONIAN MANUAL.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON, PROPRIETOR.

The proprietor of the Thomsonian Manual respectfully informs the public that the *eighth volume* of this periodical will be commenced on the 15th day of November next.

The Manual will contain such original and selected matter as will tend to advance the cause of Thomsonism; and while the proprietor uses his best exertions to promote the public good, he trusts that he will be sustained.

The circulation of the Manual having increased one half during its present volume, by the ex-

ertion of friends who have kindly volunteered in its behalf, the Proprietor takes this opportunity to tender them his thanks. He would also inform his patrons that he will continue his publication, and to make it acceptable and useful to them will be his aim. A new Editor will be engaged, whose time will be strictly devoted to the cause. He will be assisted by the experience of able practitioners and the Proprietor himself.

✍ **CONDITIONS.**—The Manual will be published in Boston, Mass., on the 1st and 15th of each month, at TWO DOLLARS a year, payable in advance. Each number will contain sixteen handsomely printed octavo pages.

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As no person has been engaged as yet to fill the editorial department, applications for the situation addressed to Doct. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem st. Boston, (post paid) will receive attention.

* * All letters intended for the Manual, must be post paid, and directed as follows—"Dr. Samuel Thomson, No. 40 Salem Street, Boston, Mass. Boston, Mass., Sept. 1, 1841.

Notice.

DR. SAMUEL THOMSON would inform his friends and the public that his New Book, "*The Thomsonian Materia Medica, or Botanic Family Physician*," containing 834 pages, is now through the press, and for sale at No. 40 Salem street, Boston.

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Boston, October 29, 1841.

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